



Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

# CBC Newsletter

ISSN No. 0162-7120

For members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc.,  
Ornithological Society of the Carolinas

Volume 64

February 2018

Number 1

## Happy New Year to Our Membership!



A new year of birding has begun. The Carolina Bird Club is maintained primarily by volunteers, to include the Executive Board, our editors of *The Chat* and the newsletters. The Executive Board strives to produce three successful Seasonal Meetings every year. This includes coordinating the accommodations, banquet, guest speakers, field trips and field trip leaders, who are also volunteers. We all share the same passion for birding: conservation and preservation.

To continue on this path requires volunteers to keep the Carolina Bird Club vital. To that end, please support the CBC by completing the two online surveys at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).

Thank you!

*Christine Stoughton-Root*

## Springtime in the North Carolina Mountains

By Marilyn Westphal and Karyl Gabriel

The 2018 CBC Spring Meeting, Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28, will once again be visiting a favorite spring birding location at the southern end of the North Carolina mountains. Flat Rock, on the eastern side of Hendersonville, is conveniently located between the Blue Ridge Escarpment, where the mountains descend abruptly to the piedmont, and the beautiful Pisgah National Forest and Blue Ridge Parkway. This area includes a range of elevations from one thousand to over six thousand feet with habitats from wetlands, pasture/farmland, to deciduous and coniferous forests, and the variety of songbirds found in the area can be amazing. Within 50 miles of the meeting site are twenty species of warbler, five species of vireo, thrushes, tanagers, orioles, crossbills. Many other species can be found breeding and many, many more songbirds use the area as a thruway to more northern regions from late April into May.



*Blue Ridge Escarpment  
(www.greenvillesc.com)*

**/Continued P.2**

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# Springtime in the North Carolina Mountains/Continued

By Marilyn Westphal and Karyl Gabriel



*Pisgah National Forest (USDA)*

Choose trips from some of the most favored hotspots in the southern Appalachians including the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Pisgah National Forest and the Blue Ridge Escarpment, the Green River Gamelands, and a variety of local parks and greenways. Along the escarpment find some birder favorites like Swainson's, Kentucky, and Worm-eating Warblers, and at higher elevation sites in the forest and along the parkway Cerulean, Canada, Chestnut-sided, and Golden-winged Warblers. It's also a wonderful time of year for spring wildflowers.

For non-birders there are plenty of local sites to visit including the nearby Carl Sandburg home where you can bring yourself back in time to the 1950s, or go back even further in time to the 1890s and visit Biltmore House and Gardens in south Asheville, or stroll the gardens of the North Carolina Arboretum near Asheville only about 30 minutes away.

Our host hotel for the weekend will be the Mountain Lodge and Conference Center located at 42 McMurray Road in Flat Rock, NC , just off I-26. ([www.mountainlodgeflatrock.com](http://www.mountainlodgeflatrock.com)), (828-693-9910).

Check-in begins at 3pm and check-out is at 11am. The room rate is \$109 per night plus taxes, and includes a complimentary hot breakfast in the Fireplace Lounge each morning of your stay. The CBC rate is good for studio suites (two full beds or king bed with full kitchen) or one bedroom king suites (king bed with separate living room with sleeper sofa and full kitchen). The venue also offers an indoor pool, fitness center, free WiFi and daily housekeeping. There are a wide variety of restaurants within a short drive in Flat Rock and nearby Hendersonville.



*Mountain Lodge and Conference Center*



*Naturalist Julie Zickefoose*

The Friday evening program will be held at the Hendersonville City Operations Center near downtown Hendersonville and the Saturday evening program will be held at the Mountain Lodge and Conference Center. Following a brief social gathering the Friday evening speaker will be Derb Carter, Director of the Chapel Hill office of the Southern Environmental Law Center and winner of North Carolina Conservationist of the Year and National Wetlands Awards, who will share his experiences birding in Cuba. Following Saturday evening's buffet banquet our speaker is Julie Zickefoose.

Ms. Zickefoose is a widely published writer, artist and naturalist who writes and paints from Indigo Hill, her 80-acre sanctuary in the Appalachian foothills of Ohio. Her books include Letters from Eden, The Bluebird Effect, and Baby Birds: An Artist Looks into the Nest. Ms. Zickefoose will offer a selection of her books and art for sale. The buffet dinner Saturday evening is \$30 per person and will include a vegetarian option.

**There is something for everyone on this trip! We look forward to seeing you there.**

# Texas Gulf Coast and Rio Grande Valley Trip

## Our Best Bird—the Tamaulipas Crow

By Ron Clark



*Crested Caracaras. Photographed by Ron Clark.*

Eight of us arrived in San Antonio on Friday, November 10th. A walk around the block got us the common Great-tailed Grackle and White-winged Dove, but we also found our first Ladder-backed Woodpecker by the hotel. Leaving early on Saturday, we headed for the coast. Once we got off the interstate, we made a few roadside stops on our way to Choke Canyon State Park. Several Crested Caracaras and Harris's Hawks were seen, along with Great Kiskadees.

At the park, we got most of our ducks and



*Least Grebe. Photographed by Ron Clark.*

waders, along with Least Grebe, Neotropic Cormorant, Golden-fronted Woodpecker and Vermilion Flycatcher.



*Vermilion Flycatcher.  
Photographed by Ron Clark.*

After lunch in Three Rivers, we headed for Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, adding a few more ducks, waders and terns.

Goose Creek State Park was closed due to Hurricane Harvey, so we stopped by the Big Tree, north of Rockport. It's a Virginia Live Oak, with estimated age between one thousand and two thousand years. It survived the hurricane with little damage. We stayed in Rockport, finishing the day with 82 species.

On Sunday, we made one stop before the Whooping Crane boat tour. It was a gray and occasionally rainy morning. Our crane total was 21, including four juveniles. Along with the birds, we got looks at a White-collared Peccary, also called Javelina, a large mammal that looks like a wild pig but isn't related to them, being a native to the Americas.

Rockport was devastated by Harvey. We saw many buildings with no roof or worse. Piles of trees and trash were constant. The largest was beside Bypass 35. There were two piles, one organic and one man-made, each roughly the size of a football field and 15 feet high.

**/Continued P. 4**



*Whooping Crane. Photographed by Ron Clark.*

## Texas Gulf Coast and Rio Grande Valley Trip/Continued

By Ron Clark



*White-tailed Hawk. Photographed by Ron Clark.*

The Port Aransas jetties gave us the rest of our gulls, terns and a few more shorebirds. Our next two stops were closed due to hurricane damage. On the way to Mustang Island State Park, also closed, we got good looks at a pair of White-tailed Hawks. Going back inland, we headed for Kingsville for the night, finishing with 110 species.

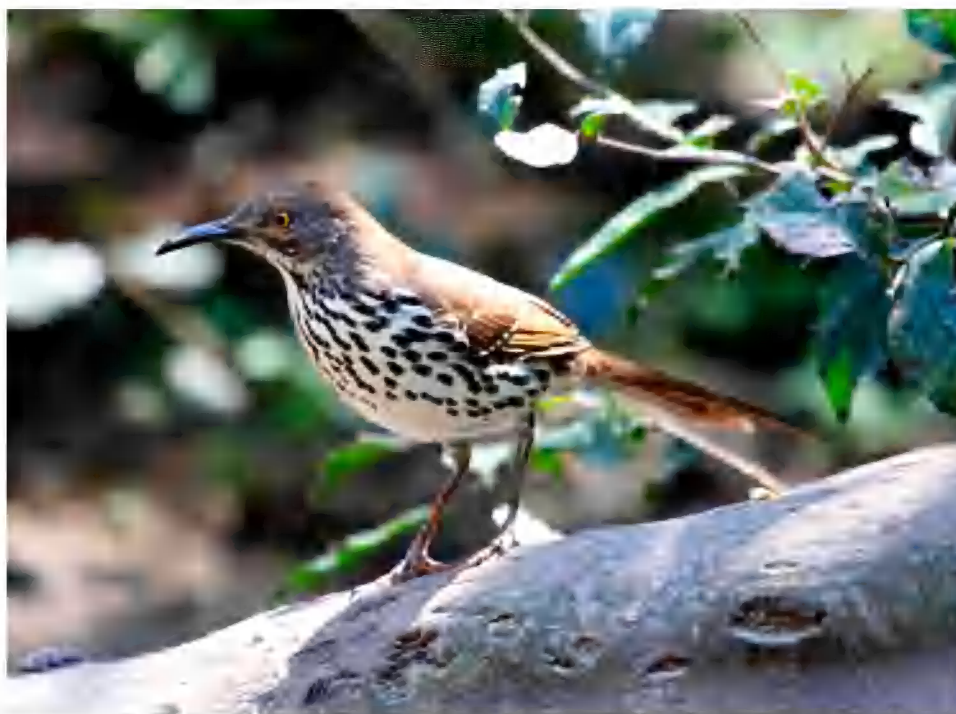
Monday morning started with a wild goose chase. Snow, Ross's and Greater White-fronted Geese use the fields south of town. The trick is to find them and hope they're close enough to see. We drove back and forth a few times as we saw them in the distance. We managed to get close enough to see them, about 200 yards out.

We never could pick out a Ross's but there were plenty of the other two. Sandhill Cranes and Long-billed Curlews serenaded us while we watched. At Sarita Rest Stop, we got Brewer's Blackbirds, Green Jays and Lesser Goldfinches. Checking fields near Combes, we struck out on Mountain Plover and Sprague's Pipit, which winter in that area.

After a fabulous lunch at Mary's Mexican Cafe in Rio Hondo, we birded Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, adding Long-billed Thrasher, Plain Chachalaca and Greater Roadrunner. A "lost" Lazuli Bunting that had been reported there was seen by most of the group. After stopping on South Padre Island, we stayed in Brownsville, with 130 species under our belts.



*Green Jay. Photographed by Ron Clark.*



*Long-billed Thrasher. Photographed by Ron Clark.*



*Plain Chachalaca. Photographed by Ron Clark.*

We started our morning at Sabal Palms Sanctuary. Our best bird was a Tropical Parula, in with a small warbler flock. A Gray Hawk made a quick flyover. We also added White-tipped Dove, Wilson's Warbler and Buff-bellied Hummingbird.

## Texas Gulf Coast and Rio Grande Valley Trip/Continued

By Ron Clark

The Brownsville landfill was next, where Tamaulipas Crows had been reported after being gone for many years. I joked that it would be great to drive up and find someone looking at one. Well, that's what happened. A woman was waving to us, as she had it in her scope. Being a typical landfill, there are thousands of birds there; grackles, vultures, gulls, waders, etc. Luckily, the crow likes to perch near the road. We also picked up Bronzed Cowbird and Chihuahuan Raven. Tropical Kingbird and Bewick's Wren were added just outside the gate. After 45 minutes of smelling a landfill, we headed for lunch!

We drove Old Port Isabel Road until the holes started getting the size of the van. It's a good area for Aplomado Falcon. A falcon was seen 200 yards or more away. The size was good, so we walked down the railroad tracks to get closer. Oddly enough, the closer we got, the smaller it got. I guess the heat waves made it look bigger. In the end, it was a Kestrel, not even close to Aplomado size. Highway 100 has a hacking box from which Aplomado Falcons are released. It's usually a good spot as they often stay in the area. After some time, one flew behind us that most got to see. We finished the evening at Oliveira Park, where Red-crowned Parrots roost for the night. There were about 250, screaming as they came in and flying around us. Tuesday finished with 150 species and another night in Brownsville.



*Tamaulipas Crow. Photographed by Ron Clark.*



*Common Pauraque. Photographed by Ron Clark.*



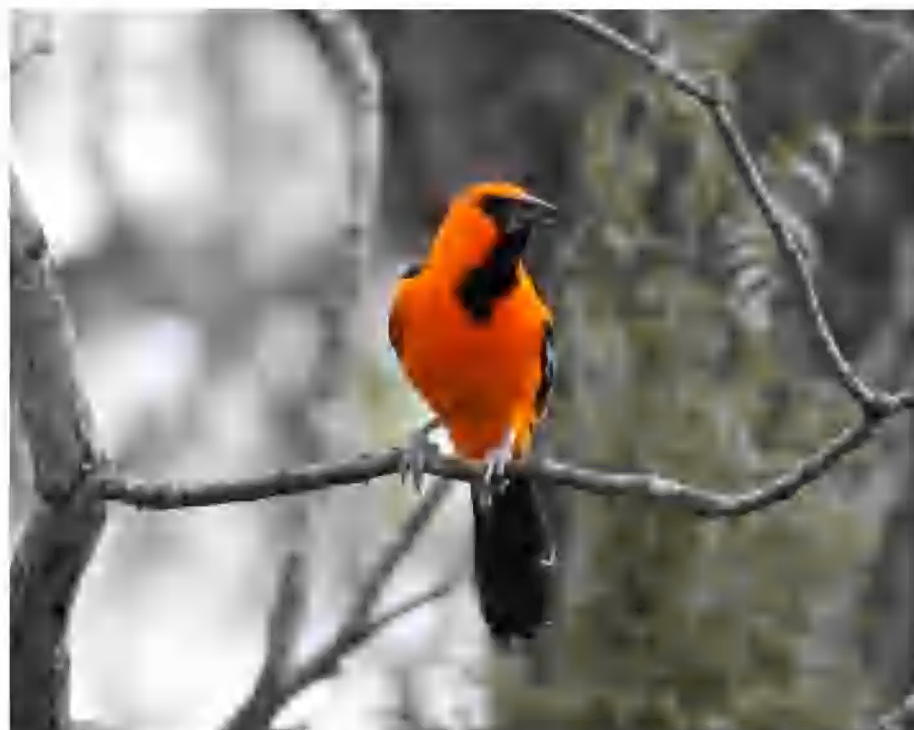
*Clay-colored Thrush. Photographed by Ron. Clark.*

On Wednesday, we drove west to our first stop, Estero Llano Grande State Park in Weslaco. One highlight was seeing a Common Pauraque from less than ten feet, at its yearly roosting spot. We picked up Cave Swallow, Clay-colored Thrush, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Curve-billed Thrasher and McCall's subspecies of Eastern Screech-Owl. We visited three sites in the hot afternoon, but our only western species added was Altamira Oriole. Our evening finished at 166 species.

**/Continued P 6**

## Texas Gulf Coast and Rio Grande Valley Trip/Continued

By Ron Clark



*Altamira Oriole. Photographed by Ron Clark.*

A two-mile walk at Bentsen-Rio Grande State Park started our Thursday morning. We added Olive Sparrow, Black-crested Titmouse, Black Phoebe and got much better looks at a Gray Hawk, adult and juvenile. At Anzalduas County Park, we had a Ringed Kingfisher and, in Hidalgo, we saw six Monk Parakeet nests, with birds. There was just one nest five years ago, so they are doing well, as many non-native species tend to do. After one other stop, we finished at an evening roosting area for thousands of birds in McAllen. The main one we wanted was Green Parakeet. Around 300 showed up, along with Grackles, Starlings, Cowbirds, Pigeons and one Merlin, not sure which direction to try. The birds on the wires stretched for blocks in

all directions and were making quite a noise. The parakeet put us at 179.

Driving west on Friday morning, we got out of the endless city which the valley has become, not knowing where one city starts and another stops. It was good to get back into the country. Our first stop was Roma Bluffs, where we looked across the Rio Grande into Mexico. Sadly, an Audubon's Oriole sang a few times down the bluff, but was never seen. We added a Verdin at Salineno. No new western birds at Falcon State Park or Zapata. At San Ygnacio, we saw around ten White-Collared Seedeaters in the reeds, all young males or females. Viewing was very brief as they flew from cover to cover. Finally one sat up for several minutes for a great view. From there, we drove to Laredo for our lodging, with 183 species.



*Ringed Kingfisher. Photographed by Ron Clark.*

On Saturday, after spending some time at Lake Casa Blanca State Park, we went to Zacate Creek in southeastern Laredo. No new birds but we had a three Kingfisher morning. A pair of Ringed Kingfishers sat on the wire for excellent views, a Green Kingfisher stayed closer to the creek and a Belted Kingfisher made several passes. After walking some of the Las Palmas Trail, we turned northeast for the drive back to San Antonio. A small pond in Frio County gave us a chance to stretch out legs. There we added our last trip species, a Mallard, to finish with 184. Soon after, the van automatically pulled into a Dairy Queen, not the first one for the trip.

Except for some rain on the first weekend, we had great weather for birding. The Tamaulipas Crow was easily our best bird, followed by the Tropical Parula. We ate a lot of Mexican food, stopping at many taquerias in small towns. On a couple of days, it was lunch and dinner. Thanks to those who came for making it a fun trip.

# Welcome New CBC Members!

Sandra Angel  
Kernersville, NC

Brenda Currin  
Oxford, NC

Chuck Dollison  
Seneca, SC

Don Ellison  
Marty Baird  
Raleigh, NC

Jacob & Elaina Farmer  
Raleigh, NC

Howard & Cheri Ferguson  
Wilmington, NC

Holly Ferreira  
Hampstead, NC

Mike Greene  
Pinehurst, NC

Greg Hays  
Charlotte, NC

Cathy Murphy  
Richard Roland  
Jacksonville, FL

Jennifer Roberts  
Columbia, SC

Barbara & Len Schmitz  
Gaithersburg, MD

Michael Smith  
Holden Beach, NC

Jenna Stephens  
Chris Kenny  
Columbia, SC

Ed Stines  
Wilson, NC

Joseph & Barbara Twiss  
 Mooresville, NC

Nathaniel Watkins  
Columbus, NC

Joseph & Cindy Waytula  
Goose Creek, SC

Mary Whiteacre  
Saint Cloud, FL

Gary Wiggins  
Raleigh, NC

Sierra Williams  
Amelia Court House, VA

Cynthia Wood  
Zionville, NC

## **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!**

Would you like to rename our Seasonal Meeting. What are your favorite sites for meetings? Two online membership surveys covering these and other topics are available at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org). Your responses to these surveys provide guidance to the Executive Board to develop the CBC's annual and long-term strategic plans. Please respond to the surveys **thru Feb 20**. We value your input.

## **CBC Spring Executive Committee Election**

**We will need candidates to fill spots for SC Vice President and SC Member at Large.**

**SC Vice President is for one three-year term.**

**SC Member at Large is for a two year term and eligible for a second two year term.**

**If interested please send an email to [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org), so we can discuss further what is involved!**

**Carolina Bird Club offers scholarships for birders 19 and under living in the Carolinas,  
who are members of the Carolina Young Birders Club.**

Scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings. For more information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).

**CBC Research, educational and conservation grants are available through the Carolina Bird Club.  
For additional information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).**



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**Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**  
**1809 Lakepark Drive**  
**Raleigh, NC 27612**

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at Pinehurst, NC 28374  
and additional mailing offices

## Upcoming CBC Meetings

Spring 2018—Flat Rock, North Carolina

Fall 2018—Greenville, SC

Winter 2019—Outer Banks, NC

Spring 2019—Southern Pines, NC

### CBC Board Members

**President**, Christine Stoughton-Root,  
Merritt, NC  
[cssrbdr@gmail.com](mailto:cssrbdr@gmail.com)

#### **Vice Presidents**

Teri Bergin, Mt. Pleasant, SC  
Sherry Lane, Wilmington, NC  
Steve Tracy, Gastonia, NC

#### **Secretary**

Jeri Smart, Rolesville, NC

#### **Treasurer**

Paul Dayer, Durham, NC

#### **NC Members-at-Large**

Lester Coble, Ernul, NC  
Karyl Gabriel, High Point, NC  
Katherine Higgins, Wilmington, NC  
Marilyn Westphal, Hendersonville,  
NC

#### **SC Members-at-Large**

Lewis Burke, Columbia, SC  
Steve McInnis, Columbia, SC

**Immediate Past President** : Irvin Pitts

**Editor of The Chat**— Steve Shultz

**Website Editor**: Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC

**Headquarters Secretary**: Carol Bowman, Pinehurst, NC,  
[hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org)

**CBC Newsletter Editor**: Vivian Glover, Orangeburg, SC,  
[newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org)

**Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of  
December, February, April, June, August, and October.**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)—UPDATE**

The *CBC Newsletter* is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937 the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. **Current dues are:** Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments).

**Membership dues** include access to the CBCs two publications the *CBC Newsletter* and *The Chat*. Tax deductible as required by law.

**Cost for CBC bird checklists**, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

**Join the CBC** at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/dues/>. Enter change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile/>. Order checklists from: CBC Headquarters Secretary, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Copyright © 2017.

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# CBC Newsletter

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Volume 64

April 2018

Number 2

## Springtime in the North Carolina Mountains

Thursday, April 26th to Sunday April 29th

By Marilyn Westphal and Karyl Gabriel

Soon the waves of migrating songbirds will be pouring back into the Western North Carolina Mountains. The birds will be singing, looking for mates, and searching for nest sites.

It's a fabulous time to be here and we hope you come to witness the arrival of many of these colorful birds and wonderful songsters.

There are several trips along the beautiful Blue Ridge Parkway as well as in the Pisgah National Forest, along the always fascinating Blue Ridge Escarpment, and at area parks.

This is the best time of year to find all those warblers, vireos, thrushes, flycatchers and other migrants we love as they will all be singing heartily and establishing territories.



*Blue Ridge Travel Guide Photo of Chimney Rock State Park*

**The meeting will take place at the Mountain Lodge and Conference Center, 42 McMurray Road, Flat Rock, NC, with check in beginning at 3:00pm on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup> and the meeting ending Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> with check-out time at 11:00am. Call for reservations at 828-693-9910.**

At press time all one bedroom king studio suites have been booked already, but there are still studio suites with two full beds or one king bed and full kitchen available. Rooms are \$109.00 plus tax per room per night and include a complimentary hot breakfast in the Fireplace Lounge. Breakfast will begin for CBC participants at 5:30am. Rooms are going fast, so please make your reservation soon.

**/Continued P. 2**

### New Opportunities for Young Birders

Apply for a **full scholarship** to attend the ABA, Camp Avocet **July 28-Aug 3 2018**. A variety of scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.

For more information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org) the scholarship link is under the "Grant tab" then link to the appropriate application.

## Springtime in the North Carolina Mountains/Continued

Thursday, April 26th to Sunday April 29th

By Marilyn Westphal and Karyl Gabriel

Our speaker Friday evening will be NC Conservationist of the Year, Derb Carter, who will discuss birding in Cuba. The Friday night meeting will take place at the Hendersonville City Operations Center at 305 Williams Street in Hendersonville. Directions will be provided in your information packet to be picked up in the meeting registration room.



*Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary, Asheville, NC*

Please go to the meeting registration room after you check into the hotel. Trip directions and a list of nearby restaurants will also be included in the meeting information packet. For those of you signing up for all-day trips, please remember that you must bring your own lunch.

The Saturday meeting will feature artist, writer, and naturalist Julie Zickefoose whose books include Letters from Eden, The Bluebird Effect, and Baby Birds: An Artist Looks into the Nest. The Saturday speaker will follow a buffet dinner in the Grand Lodge Ballroom at the hotel. The dinner is \$30.00 per person. Please sign up for the buffet dinner on the CBC website when you complete your trip selections.

All trips will leave from the hotel. If you are not staying at the hotel, be sure to at least come and sign in for the meeting and get your meeting information packet at the hotel conference meeting room on Thursday evening or whenever you arrive.

**Online registration ends at 8am on April 21<sup>st</sup>.**  
**However walk-in registrations are accepted at the meeting.**

**See you there!**

## CBC 2018 Spring Meeting Flat Rock, NC Schedule and Descriptions

Friday, April 27	Saturday, April 28
<b><u>All Day (BRING YOUR LUNCH)</u></b>	<b><u>All Day (BRING YOUR LUNCH)</u></b>
<b>Trip #1</b> Blue Ridge Parkway North—6:15AM	<b>Trip #26</b> Blue Ridge Parkway North—6:15AM
<b>Trip #2</b> Curtis Creek Road/Mount Mitchell/BRP—6:00AM	<b>Trip #27</b> Curtis Creek Road/Mount Mitchell/BRP—6:00AM
<b>Trip #3</b> Blue Ridge Parkway South—6:15AM	<b>Trip #28</b> Blue Ridge Parkway South—6:15AM
<b>Trip #4</b> Max Patch Road—6:00AM	<b>Trip #29</b> Max Patch Road—6:00AM
<b>Trip #5</b> Pisgah National Forest /Davidson River to Mount Pisgah—6:30AM	<b>Trip #30</b> Blue Wall Preserve—6:30AM
Friday, April 27—Half Day Morning	Saturday, April 28—Half Day Morning
<b>Trip #8</b> Green River Cove Road/ Lake Adger Headwaters—6:45AM	<b>Trip #33</b> Green River Cove Road/ Lake Adger Headwaters—6:45AM
<b>Trip #9</b> Jackson Park—7:15AM	<b>Trip #34</b> Jackson Park—7:15AM
<b>Trip #10</b> The Park at Flat Rock—7:30AM	<b>Trip #35</b> Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education—6:45AM
<b>Trip #11</b> Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education—6:15AM	<b>Trip #36</b> Chimney Rock State Park/Lake Lure—7:00AM
<b>Trip #12</b> Chimney Rock State Park/Lake Lure—7:00AM	<b>Trip #37</b> Big Hungry River—7:15AM
<b>Trip #13</b> Charles D. Owen Park/Swannanoa River- 6:30AM	<b>Trip #38</b> Charles D. Owen Park/Swannanoa River-6:30AM
<b>Trip #14</b> Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary—7:00AM	<b>Trip #39</b> Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary—7:00AM
Friday, April 27—Half Day Afernoon	Sturday, April 28—Half Day Afernoon
<b>Trip #17</b> Jackson Park—1:00PM	<b>Trip #42</b> Jackson Park—1:00PM
<b>Trip #18</b> The Park at Flat Rock—1:00PM	<b>Trip #43</b> Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education—12:45PM
<b>Trip #19</b> Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education—12:45PM	<b>Trip #44</b> Birding Techniques for Beginning Birders at Jackson Park—1:00PM
<b>Trip #20</b> Brevard Hike/Bike Path—12:45PM	<b>Trip #45</b> Charles D. Owen Park/Swannanoa River-12:45PM
<b>Trip #21</b> Birding Techniques for Beginning Birders at Jackson Park—1:00PM	<b>Trip #46</b> Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary—12:45PM
<b>Trip #22</b> Big Hungry River—1:00PM	<b>Trip #47</b> Big Hungry River—1:00PM
<b>Trip #23</b> Fletcher Park/Lake Julian—12:45PM	<b>Trip #48</b> Fletcher Park/Lake Julian—1:00PM

# Spring Meeting Notes

- All field trips have a limit of 15 participants.
- **Plan to bring water, snacks and lunch for the all-day trips** since there may not be food available along the route unless otherwise noted in the field trip description. There are several restaurants and sandwich shops near the hotel so you can purchase takeout for lunch the night before.
- Water and snacks are also a good idea for the half-day field trips.
- All trips will leave from the hotel at the times indicated on the schedule. Look for the placard with your trip number. There will be a sheet with all directions for your trips e-mailed to you in advance. Please bring it on each trip as caravans sometimes break down and, if so, you'll still be able to get to the trip site. Get the leader's cell number before you leave, just in case.
- If you prefer to meet the group at the site, be sure to inform the leader and make a notation on the field trip attendee list so the leader will not be looking for you at the hotel.
- The times listed on the sign-in sheets are when cars are lined up in the parking lot and leaving. Please be there at least 10 minutes early and identify yourself to the leader. If you decide not to go on a trip, either scratch through your name beforehand on the supplied lists on the registration tables or tell the leader. Please consider doing this in advance so others may use the open spot if desired.
- We try to take as few vehicles as possible on field trips to save gas, make caravanning easier, and to make better use of the limited parking that exists at some stops. Please plan on carpooling, and if you would like to drive and have room for new or old friends, please let your trip leader know.
- **Sunday, April 13 is the last date you can cancel and receive a refund of your registration fee and banquet charge. You can cancel through the website.**

# CBC 2018 Spring Meeting Flat Rock, NC

## Field Trip Descriptions

### **Trip 1 (April 27) & Trip 26 (April 28): Blue Ridge Parkway North—ALL DAY**

This is a great trip for a wide variety of low and high elevation breeding woodland species of the Southern Appalachians. The trip begins at the Folk Art Center on the Blue Ridge Parkway north of Asheville and continues north to Mount Mitchell. Along the way a wide variety of warblers occur including Black-and-white, Hooded, Cerulean, Worm-eating, Ovenbird, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian and Chestnut-sided as well as Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Veery, Red-eyed, Blue-headed, and Yellow-throated Vireo and Eastern Wood Pewee. In the Mount Mitchell area look for Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, and possibly Pine Siskin and Red Crossbill. Time permitting the trip will continue down Curtis Creek Rd for Louisiana Waterthrush, Swainson's Warbler, and Acadian Flycatcher.

**Restrooms: At Mount Mitchell. Walking: Mainly along overlooks.**

**Cell phone service is weak to unavailable at times.**

**Distance: Approx. 100 miles complete loop distance. (28 miles to Folk Art Center.)**

### **Trip 2 (April 27) & Trip 27 (April 28): Curtis Creek Road/Mount Mitchell/BRP—ALL DAY**

This is basically the reverse of the Blue Ridge Parkway North trip and all of the same species should be found. It will start at the lower end of Curtis Creek Rd and continue up to the parkway to Mount Mitchell, then south on the BRP to the Asheville exit.

**Restrooms: At Curtis Creek Campground and at Mount Mitchell. Walking: Easy to moderate. Cell phone service is weak to unavailable at times.**

**Distance: Approx. 100 miles complete loop distance. (Approx.. 55 miles to Curtis Creek Rd.)**

### **Trip 3 (April 27) & Trip 28 (April 28): Blue Ridge Parkway South—ALL DAY**

The trip will begin at the Bent Creek entrance to the Blue Ridge Parkway and head south to Mount Pisgah, Black Balsam Road, and Devil's Courthouse, thus covering both high and low elevation habitats and species. Some of the many expected species include Canada, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, and Chestnut-sided Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Veery, Least Flycatcher, and possibly Red Crossbill, Peregrine Falcon and Ruffed Grouse as well as other migrants just passing through.

**Restrooms: At Pisgah campground and at Graveyard Fields. Walking: Easy to moderate.**

**Cell phone service is weak to unavailable at times.**

**Distance: 18.8 miles to parkway entrance plus 29 miles to Devil's Courthouse. Return trip will depend on route chosen.**

### **Trip 4 (April 27) & Trip 29 (April 28): Max Patch Road—ALL DAY**

If Golden-winged Warbler is your target species this trip is your best opportunity, but it is also great for many other warblers and other songbirds such as Blackburnian, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Veery, Least Flycatcher and many more. Time permitting on the return journey there will be a stop at Lake Junaluska to check for lingering waterfowl and shorebirds.

**Restrooms: None after leaving the interstate. Walking: Easy. Cell phone service is weak to unavailable at times.**

**Distance: Approx. 130 miles round trip total.**

**/Continued P.6**

## **CBC 2018 Spring Meeting Flat Rock, NC**

### **Field Trip Descriptions/Continued**

#### **Trip 5 (April 27): Pisgah National Forest/Davidson River to Mount Pisgah—ALL DAY**

From the entrance to the forest to Mount Pisgah the elevation change is about 2800 feet and the increasing elevation along the route brings changes in forest habitat and avian species. Through the lower parts of the forest expect Oven-bird, Louisiana Waterthrush, American Redstart, Black-and-white, Hooded, Yellow-throated, and Swainson's Warbler as well as Wood Thrush and Red-eyed Vireo. Continuing into higher elevations you will begin to encounter Black-throated Blue, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, and Canada Warbler as well as Blue-headed Vireo, Veery and Rose-breasted Grosbeak. At the Mount Pisgah campground there is a good chance of adding Least Flycatcher and possibly Red Crossbill as well as other migrants passing through to more northern breeding areas.

**Restrooms: Several along the way. Walking: Easy to moderate. Cell phone service is weak to unavailable at times.**

**Distance: Approx. 90 miles round trip to Mt. Pisgah and back via Pisgah NF. (26 miles to Forest entrance.)**

#### **Trip 30 (April 28): Blue Wall Preserve—ALL DAY**

The Nature Conservancy site on Hogback Mountain contains a variety of habitats including hemlock/rhododendron thickets, ponds, old field pines, rushing streams, and 100-year old cove hardwood and oak/hickory forest. You may see a variety of birds including Wood Duck, woodpeckers, nuthatches, flycatchers, thrushes, abundant warblers, Scarlet Tanager and many others. A segment of SC's Palmetto Trail, the preserve also offers wildflowers and blooming shrubs.

**Restrooms: No. Walking: Easy to moderate.**

**Distance: To Be Determined**

#### **Trip 8 (April 27) & Trip 33 (April 28): Green River Cove Road/Lake Adger Headwaters—HALF DAY**

This is a great area for species commonly found along the Blue Ridge Escarpment including Louisiana Waterthrush, Swainson's, Kentucky, Worm-eating, Yellow-throated, and Prairie Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Yellow-throated Vireo, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, and White-eyed Vireo. At Lake Adger in recent years Prothonotary Warblers have been regularly found. This trip will require doubling up in vehicles as some stops have very limited parking.

**Restrooms: None. Walking: Easy**

**Distance: Approx. 45 miles round trip to Lake Adger via Green River Cove Rd. (Approx. 12 miles to Green River Cove Rd.)**

#### **Trips 9 & 17 (April 27) and Trips 34 & 42 (April 28): Jackson Park—HALF DAY**

This 212-acre park in downtown Hendersonville has a nice mix of woodlands, wetlands and fields and can be a very good spot to find a nice variety of migrating songbirds. Birds are relatively easy to see here as well as they are often close to the trail. The various trails are easy and often paved.

**Restrooms: Yes. Walking: Easy**

**Distance: Approx. 8 miles round trip.**

#### **Trip 10 (April 27) & Trip 18 (April 28): The Park at Flat Rock—HALF DAY**

This park was only established 3 years ago, but is already very popular for walking, jogging, and birding. It is a 66-acre park with a one and a half mile trail going around the edge as well as several other trails that wind around wetlands, ponds, and wooded areas. Expect to find Yellow, Pine, and Yellow-throated Warbler, American Redstart, Eastern Kingbird, Orchard Oriole, swallows, woodpeckers, sparrows and possibly other migrating songbirds.

**Restrooms: Yes. Walking: Easy.**

**Distance: Approx. 4.5 miles round trip.**

## **CBC 2018 Spring Meeting Flat Rock, NC**

### **Field Trip Descriptions/Continued**

#### **Trips 11& 19 (April 27) and Trips 35 & 43 (April 28): Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education—HALF DAY**

Located in the Pisgah National Forest, the center is adjacent to the Davidson River Fish Hatchery and includes a large open area and woodland and streamside trails. Typical species found along the trails include Ovenbird, Northern Parula, Louisiana Waterthrush, Hooded, Swainson's, Black-throated Green, Worm-eating, and Black-and-white Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Blue-headed and Red-eyed Vireo, and Acadian Flycatcher. In the open area around the fish hatchery expect a variety of sparrows, swallows, and other species.

**Restrooms: At the center. Walking: Easy to moderate. Cell phone service is weak to unavailable at times.**

**Distance: Approx. 66 miles round trip.**

#### **Trip 12 (April 27) & Trip 36 (April 28): Chimney Rock State Park/Lake Lure—HALF DAY**

The stunning views alone make this trip a winner, but the park is also home to many wonderful birds and wildflowers. Breeding species include Worm-eating, Swainson's, Black-throated Green, Black-and-white, and Hooded Warbler, Blue-headed and Red-eyed Vireo, Acadian Flycatcher, Peregrine Falcon and Broad-winged Hawk and you may also find a variety of migrants heading farther north. At Lake Lure you will likely add Yellow and Yellow-throated Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, swallows, sparrows, and possibly lingering waterfowl. The entrance fee to the park is \$15/person, which is not included in the CBC meeting registration, so please have the exact amount ready.

**Restrooms: Both at the park and at Lake Lure. Walking: Easy to moderate.**

**Distance: Approx. 40 miles round trip total. (Approx. 18.5 miles to Chimney Rock SP.)**

#### **Trip 13 (April 27) and Trips 38 & 45 (April 28): Charles D. Owen Park/Swannanoa River—HALF DAY**

This county park is a popular spot for local birders. Both Orchard and Baltimore Oriole as well as Warbling and Yellow-throated Vireo nest along the river and/or the tree lined lake. Continuing the walk from the park to the farm fields at neighboring Warren Wilson College birders frequently encounter shrub edge and open field birds such as Yellow-breasted Chat, Northern Bobwhite, and a variety of sparrows including Grasshopper, Field, Song, and possibly some late departing Swamp, Savannah, White-crowned, and White-throated.

**Restrooms: At Owen Park. Walking: Easy.**

**Distance: 72 miles round-trip.**

#### **Trip 14 (April 27) and Trips 39 & 46 (April 28): Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary—HALF DAY**

This 10-acre tract in Asheville is managed by the Elisha Mitchell Audubon Society. It consists of mixed hardwood and pine, along with early successional habitat, and includes a wetland that abuts Beaver Lake. It is often an excellent spot for migrating songbirds such as Blue-winged Warbler and Northern Waterthrush, but is also home to many breeding species such as Northern Rough-winged, Tree and Barn Swallow, Green Heron, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, and Orchard and Baltimore Oriole. Also look for lingering waterfowl on Beaver Lake.

**Restrooms: Nearby, but not at the sanctuary. Walking: Easy.**

**Distance: 58 miles round trip.**

**/Continued P.8**

## CBC 2018 Spring Meeting Flat Rock, NC

### Field Trip Descriptions/Continued

#### **Trip 20 (April 27): Brevard Hike/Bike Path—HALF DAY**

This greenway has expanded greatly in recent years and is now six miles long and begins at the entrance to the Pisgah National Forest and continues through the outskirts of Brevard. It includes forested area along the Davidson River down through wetlands, open areas, and shrub. Species found include those typical of mountain valleys such as White-eyed and Red-eyed Vireo, American Redstart, Northern Parula, Orchard Oriole, Eastern Kingbird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and a variety of woodpeckers, swallows, sparrows, mimic thrushes and others. The trails are wide, flat, and mostly paved.

**Restrooms: Nearby. Walking: Easy.**

**Distance: Approx. 52 miles round trip.**

#### **Trip 21 (April 27) & Trip 44 (April 28): Birding Techniques for Beginners at Jackson Park—HALF DAY**

This trip will dedicate a large amount of time to teaching various birding techniques including: locating birds, basic vocal and visual identification tips, group birder etiquette, and other useful birding tips. The trip is designed for any beginning to intermediate birder looking to enhance their birding skills in the setting of Jackson Park, a mixed habitat birding location that often attracts many migrant species in spring and fall. Beyond the development of these basic birding techniques and skills, participants will also be able to hone these skills while in the field looking at live birds. This trip will take a slower approach with time spent focusing on techniques and field marks rather than a complete species inventory of everything at the park.

**Restrooms: Yes. Walking: Easy**

**Distance: Approx. 8 miles round trip.**

#### **Trip 22 (April 27) and Trips 37 & 47 (April 28): Big Hungry River—HALF DAY**

Owned by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission and a dedicated state Nature Preserve, this deep tributary to the Green River Gorge along the Blue Ridge Escarpment offers White Pine, Carolina Hemlock, and oak/heath habitats. Birding will be along the roads. Expected birds include Red-eyed, Blue-headed, and Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-headed Woodpecker, Blue Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, and many more. Recent burns in the area opened the area to more than just forest birds, so expect a nice variety.

**Restrooms: No. Walking: Easy.**

**Distance: Approx. 10 miles round trip.**

#### **Trip 23 (April 27) & Trip 48 (April 28): Fletcher Park/Lake Julian—HALF DAY**

This park alongside Cane Creek in Fletcher has easy trails along the tree-lined creek and through open, grassy areas where lingering winter birds as well as newly arriving migrants can congregate. Check for Yellow Warbler, Orchard and Baltimore Oriole, possibly Warbling Vireo, and possibly an early arriving Willow Flycatcher along the river and in the marshy areas and White-crowned and Savannah Sparrows in the shrubby and open areas. At nearby Lake Julian scan the lake for late-departing waterfowl as well as the trees in the park for warblers and vireos.

**Restrooms: Yes, at both locations. Walking: Easy.**

**Distance: Approx. 24 miles round trip.**



# CBC News and Announcements

## CBC Spring Executive Committee Election

We will need candidates to fill spots for SC Vice President and SC Member at Large.

SC Vice President is for one three-year term.

SC Member at Large is for a two year term and eligible for a second two year term.

If interested please send an email to [hq@ carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org), so we can discuss further what is involved.

CBC Research, educational and conservation grants  
are available through the Carolina Bird Club.  
For additional information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).

Carolina Bird Club offers scholarships for birders 19 years and under  
living in the Carolinas, who are members  
of the Carolina Young Birders Club.

Apply for a full scholarship to attend the ABA, Camp Avocet July 28-Aug 3 2018. A variety of scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.

For more information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org) the scholarship link

## This is your notification that The Chat is available online.

As of the Winter 2018 issue, **The Chat** is being published online only. Discontinuing print publication will result in significant financial savings, a percentage of which will be deposited into the CBC Conservation Fund for future conservation efforts throughout North and South Carolina. This also of course saves trees by reducing paper consumption.

The Chat has been optionally available online for several years and about a quarter of the membership has already chosen to receive it only online.

The Winter 2018 issue, the first to be online-only, includes the report on 2016 Spring Migration Counts in North Carolina and Briefs for the Files for Fall 2017.

# Welcome New CBC Members!

Deb Black  
Leland, NC

Ivis Bohlen  
Durham, NC

Grant Buckner  
Burnsville, NC

Ylva Byars  
Greenville, SC

Marcia Cage  
Hendersonville, NC

Robert Carter  
Rock Hill, SC

Marie Falciglia  
Asheville, NC

Laura Gingerich  
Whispering Pines, NC

Steve Hooks  
Myrtle Beach, SC

Jonathan Hosking  
Harrells, NC

Rachel Kennerly  
Columbia, SC

Jonah Losh  
Taylors, SC

Maxine McCullar  
Southport, NC

Tracy & Matthew Moses  
Charlotte, NC

Whit & Shannon Newton  
Wagram, NC

Rhonda, David & Andrew Olshine  
Columbia, SC

Jill Peleuses  
Wilmington, NC

David Penrose  
Asheville, NC

Ann & Jack Petro  
Raleigh, NC

Jacob & Richard Rose  
Apex, NC

Deborah & Patrick Roy  
Charlotte, NC

Judi Sawyer  
Roan Mountain, TN

Dale & Shirley Scholfield  
Myrtle Beach, SC

Jennifer Swofford  
Charlotte, NC

Andrew Thornton  
Julian, NC

Linda Townsend  
Linden, NC

Suzanne Triplett  
Kure Beach, NC

Kathryn Willever  
Raleigh, NC

Cynthia Worthington & Bob Dellinger  
Charleston, SC

Lu Anne Zambrowski  
Hampstead, NC

Jian Zheng  
Cary, NC

William & Mariel Zitek  
Shelter Island Hts., NY

**Online registration begins at 2pm, Saturday, March 17  
at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)**

**CBC Flat Rock, NC Registration Form**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Member) \_\_\_\_ x \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Non-Member) \_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Buffet Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Field Trip Sign-up	A.M. 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	P.M. 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice	All-day 1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice
Friday	/	/	/
Saturday	/	/	/

To pre-register for field trips, place the trip number(s) in the boxes to the right. Meeting registration at the door costs \$40.

**Total Enclosed =** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Club policy requires all field trip participants to comply with the field trip leader's assessment and requests concerning the physical ability of each participant to make or complete the trip.

I will release and discharge (and will not make a claim against) the Carolina Bird Club for injury, death, or property damage arising from my participation at this meeting and/or Club field trips. This release of liability is entered into on behalf of all members of my family, including all minors accompanying me. I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of any such minors and that I am over 18 years of age.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club  
and send to: CBC, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374**

**Before sending in this form, check the website at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org) to see if any of your trips are full, rescheduled or cancelled.**

Processing of mail-in registrations will not begin until online registration opens. Register online for the best availability of field trips.

**Cancellations will be refunded if received by 6pm on April 13th**

Cancel by contacting the Headquarters Secretary at [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org). If you need to cancel after the refund cutoff date, please notify the Headquarters Secretary so we can give your field trip space to someone on the waiting list.

**If you registered for the buffet and elect the vegetarian option, check here: \_\_\_\_\_ # persons \_\_\_\_\_**



Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

**Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**  
**1809 Lakepark Drive**  
**Raleigh, NC 27612**

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at Pinehurst, NC 28374  
and additional mailing offices

## Upcoming CBC Meetings

**Fall 2018—Greenville, SC**

**Winter 2019—Outer Banks, NC**

**Spring 2019—Southern Pines, NC**

### CBC Board Members

**President**, Christine Stoughton-Root,  
Merritt, NC  
[cssrbdr@gmail.com](mailto:cssrbdr@gmail.com)

#### **Vice Presidents**

Teri Bergin, Mt. Pleasant, SC  
Sherry Lane, Wilmington, NC  
Steve Tracy, Gastonia, NC

#### **Secretary**

Jeri Smart, Rolesville, NC

#### **Treasurer**

Paul Dayer, Durham, NC

#### **NC Members-at-Large**

Lester Coble, Ernul, NC  
Karyl Gabriel, High Point, NC  
Katherine Higgins, Wilmington, NC  
Marilyn Westphal, Hendersonville,  
NC

#### **SC Members-at-Large**

Lewis Burke, Columbia, SC  
Steve McInnis, Columbia, SC

**Immediate Past President** : Irvin Pitts

**Editor of The Chat**– Steve Shultz

**Website Editor**: Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC

**Headquarters Secretary**: Carol Bowman, Pinehurst, NC,  
[hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org)

**CBC Newsletter Editor**: Vivian Glover, Orangeburg, SC,  
[newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org)

**Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of  
December, February, April, June, August, and October.**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)—UPDATE**

The *CBC Newsletter* is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937 the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. **Current dues are:** Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments).

**Membership dues** include access to the CBCs two publications the *CBC Newsletter* and *The Chat*. Tax deductible as required by law.

**Cost for CBC bird checklists**, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

**Join the CBC** at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/dues/>. Enter change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile/>. Order checklists from: CBC Headquarters Secretary, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Copyright © 2017.

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Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

# CBC Newsletter

ISSN No. 0162-7120

For members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc.,  
Ornithological Society of the Carolinas

Volume 64

June 2018

Number 3

## Fall Meeting in the Dynamic South Carolina Upstate By Steve McInnis



*Falls Park on the Reedy River.*

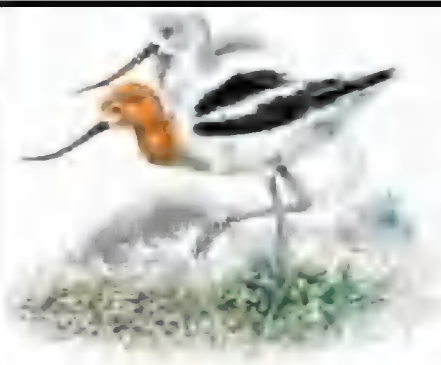
Located in the dynamic South Carolina upcountry, the city of Greenville is our destination for the CBC 2018 Fall Meeting, the weekend of September 21-22. The beautiful Blue Ridge mountains, visible from Greenville, present a compelling lure to many. Within its city limits, Greenville has more than 60 parks, including the Greenville Zoo, with fourteen landscaped acres.

Greenville is nationally acclaimed for its downtown amenities: scenic streets, cultural arts, shops, fine dining and greenways. The beautiful "Falls Park on the Reedy River" greenway boasts of its 60-foot waterfall and a 355-foot long pedestrian suspension bridge. If you want more shopping, take I-385 to the Haywood Mall area for some of the best retail stores and restaurants in the upstate.

Greenville began its revitalization in 1994 commencing with the manufacturing of BMW cars, which has the highest production volume of BMW plants worldwide. If scenic streets, parks, shopping and dining don't entice a non-birding spouse, maybe a day of Driving School at the BMW Performance Center will.

For birders, Greenville offers many enticements. The city is located in a migration flyway with proximity to some of South Carolina's finest birding hot spots and migrant traps. Lake Conestee Nature Park has significantly expanded their trail system and boardwalks since 2012. Lake Conestee will provide several rarities and a long checklist. Nine Times Preserve has added a Naturaland Way, which enormously expands its birding opportunities. Other hot spots are Blue Wall Preserve, Sassafras Mountain, Caesar's Head State Park, Spartanburg's Cottonwood Trail, Anderson County's Dobbins Farm, Prater Farm, Beaverdam WMA, Clemson's Cherry Farm and the S.C. Botanical Garden.

*/Continued P.1*



### New Opportunities for Young Birders

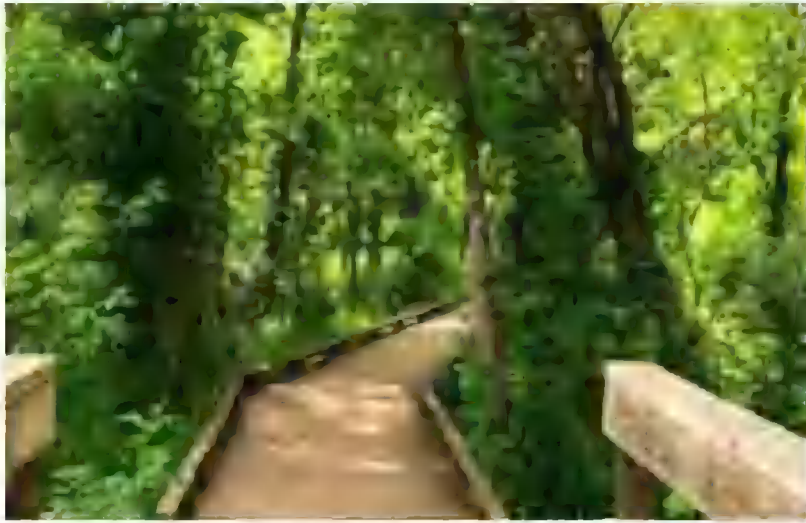
Apply for a **full scholarship** to attend the ABA Camp Avocet **July 28-Aug 3 2018**. A variety of scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.

For more information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org). The scholarship link is under the "Grant tab" then link to the appropriate application.

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## Fall Meeting in the Dynamic South Carolina Upstate/Continued

By Steve McInnis



*Lake Conestee Nature Park.*

These hot spots will provide long species lists. Some recent fall warbler sightings include Golden-winged, Blue-winged, Tennessee, Nashville, Cape May, Bay-breasted, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Prairie, Canada and Wilson's. Broad-winged hawks and Peregrine Falcons are possible migrating raptors. At Caesar's Head, you might see a resident Common Raven.



*Dr. Drew Lanham.*

After a productive day of seeing many species, you can sit back and enjoy excellent evening presentations. Our keynote speaker on Saturday is Dr. Drew Lanham, an author, a poet and an Alumni Distinguished Professor of Wildlife Ecology at Clemson University. Drew is a board member of American Birding Association and National Audubon Society. In 2017, he authored "The Home Place: Memoirs of a Colored Man's Love Affair with Nature," which Amazon.com readers rate as 4.8 out of 5-stars. His knowledge level is impressive and you will marvel at his ability to imitate birdcalls.

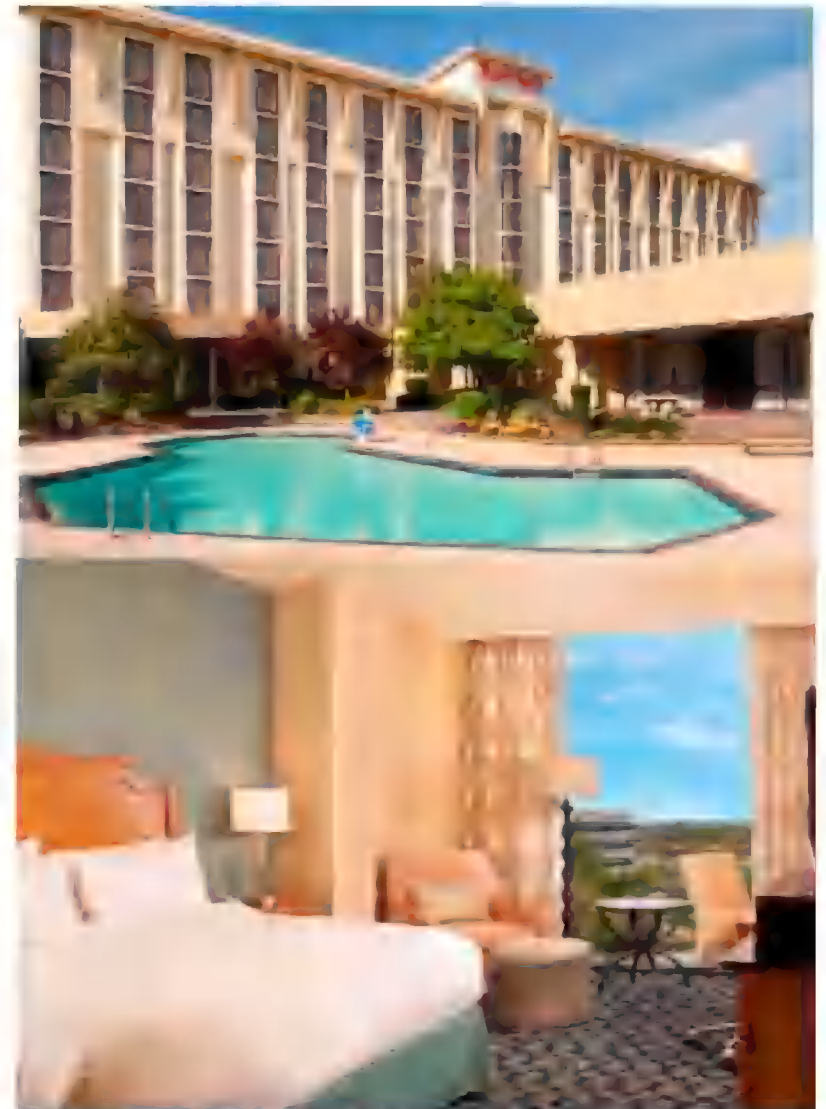


*Tim Lee.*

Our Friday night speaker is Tim Lee, an Interpretive Ranger for S.C. State Parks. Tim will speak on Fall Hawk Migration in the Upstate.

A vibrant location, with many hot spots, great birds and excellent speakers, commands a terrific and convenient meeting headquarters. The Greenville Marriott fulfills! This wonderful property is nicely located at Exit #54 (Pelham Rd) on Interstate 85. Our very special room rate is \$123/night, which includes 20%-off coupons for the breakfast buffet. All rooms are equipped with a refrigerator. The guest microwave is located off the lobby, near the hotel mini-store.

The Greenville Marriott will be our location for registration, all evening programs and our Saturday night dinner buffet. They are providing these meeting rooms at a bargain rate. Also, as it is becoming very difficult to find a hotel with large meeting rooms, please show your appreciation by staying at the Marriott. To reserve your room, contact the Greenville Marriott at (864) 297-0300 and be sure to mention you are with the CBC. The Greenville Marriott is a great property, which offers much convenience. You will enjoy your stay. Registration information along with additional meeting and banquet details and field trip descriptions will be in the August Newsletter.



*Greenville Marriott.*

**Make your hotel reservations soon and join us for a bird-filled weekend on September 21-22, 2018.**

# Carolina Bird Club Bonus Trips to Costa Rica 2018

by Sherry Lane

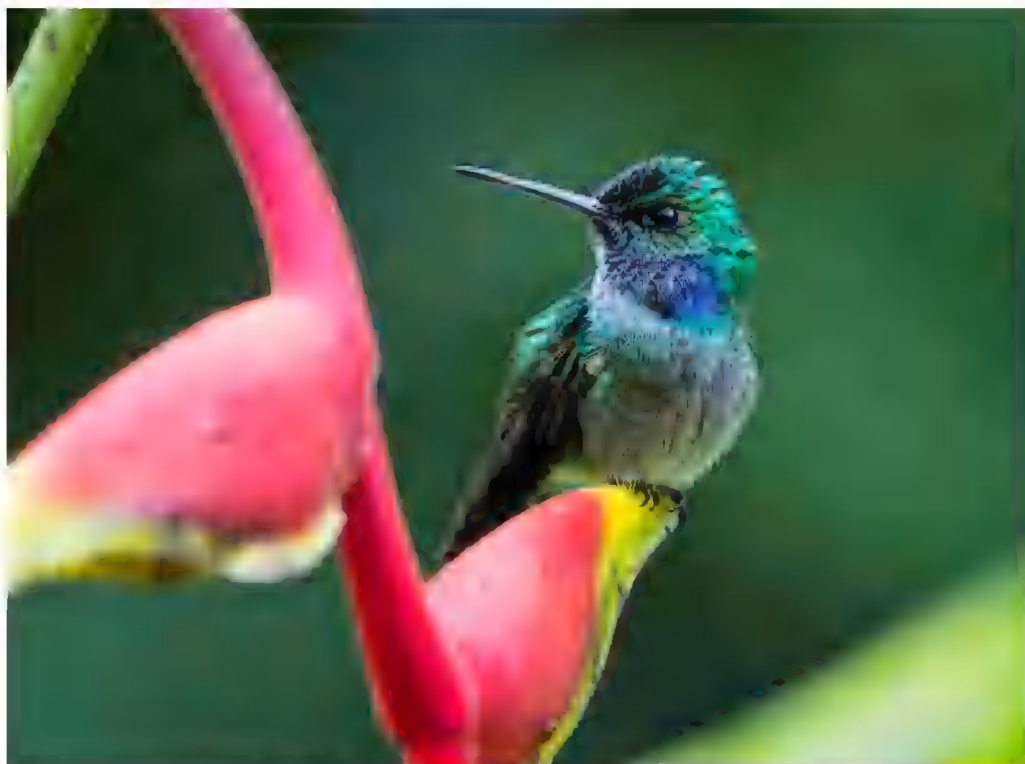


*CBC Birders on the Northern Costa Rica Tour.*

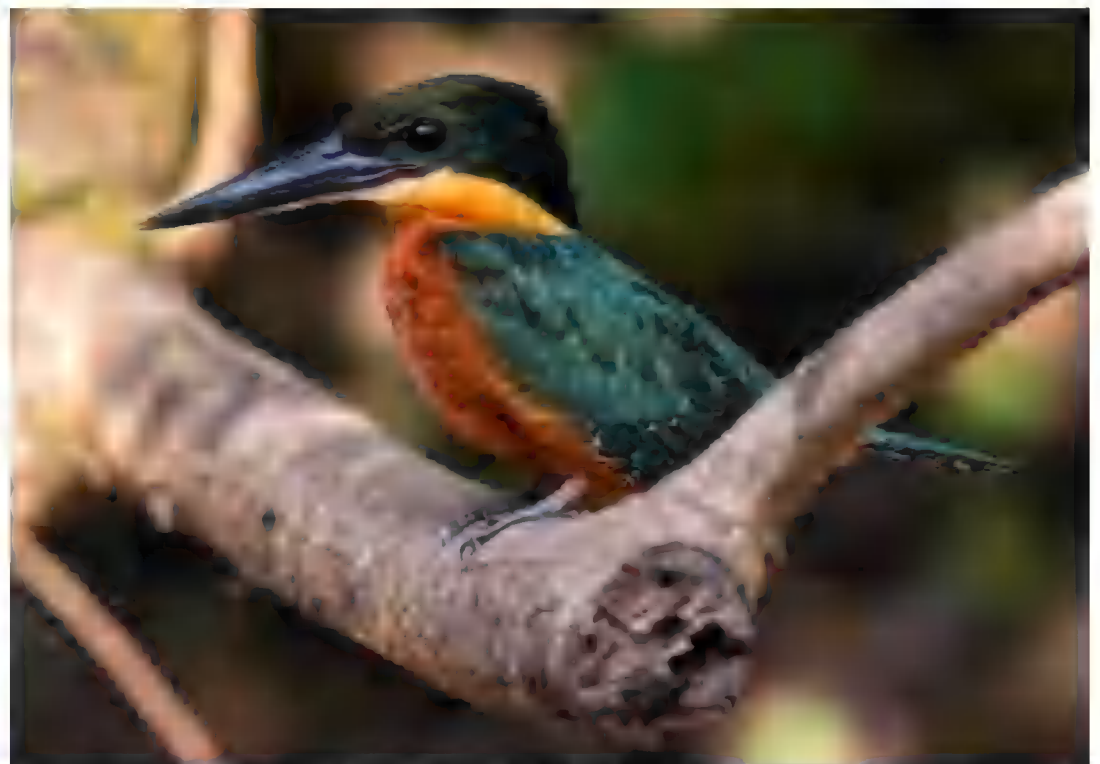
Carolina Bird Club sponsored two 10-day back-to-back bonus trips to Costa Rica in February and in March of 2018.

Our first trip was the Northern Costa Rica tour where we visited the best birding sites of the Central Pacific including Carara National Park, the dry northwest known as the Guanacaste, the Northern Caribbean wetlands of Cano Negro, and the Caribbean foothills of scenic Arenal Volcano.

The second tour covered the Southern backbone of Costa Rica, the Talamanca Highlands and Cerro de la Muerte. We also traveled to the Pacific foothills including Los Cusingos Reserve and Talari Mountain Lodge ending in the SW coastal lowlands of Esquinas Rainforest and the Rincon Bridge of the Osa Peninsula. /Continued P. 4



*Charming Hummingbird  
at Esquinas Rainforest Lodge.  
Photographed by Steven Easley.*



*Green-and-rufous Kingfisher  
at Cano Negro.  
Photographed by Steven Easley.*

# Carolina Bird Club Bonus Trips to Costa Rica 2018/Continued by Sherry Lane

Each tour included nine CBC birders, myself as leader, a dedicated bus driver and our excellent local guide, Steven Easley.

We totaled 508 bird species, three monkey species, both sloth species, lots of reptiles including American Crocodile and Speckled Caiman.

For a more detailed description of the February and the March bonus trip reports, please visit our CBC website.

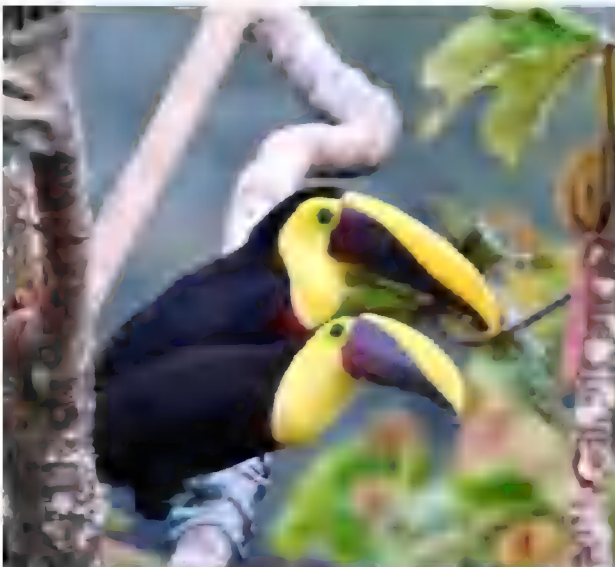
Plans are underway for another Carolina Bird Club bonus trip to Costa Rica in 2019!

Watch the CBC newsletter for details.

Pura Vida,  
Sherry Lane



*CBC Birders in Southern Costa Rica.*



*Yellow-throated Toucans.  
Photographed by Sherry Lane.*



*Pale-billed Woodpecker.  
Photographed by Sherry Lane.*



*Ocellated Antbird.  
Photographed by Steven Easley .*

## CBC Bonus Field Trips

Bonus Field Trips are open only to CBC members in good standing (i.e., your dues must be paid up). Would you like to go on a field trip but aren't a CBC member? It is perfectly OK to join the CBC at the same time you register for a field trip. Information on joining the CBC can be found on our Membership Page on the CBC Website—[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).



# The CBC in Panama - January 2018

Article and Photos By Steve Shultz

Supertanker. Toucan. Quetzal. Bridge of the Americas.

What do these seemingly unrelated words have in common, and what, pray tell, do they have to do with the Carolina Bird Club? All are things spotted by members in Panama, host of an incredible CBC "bonus trip" in January 2018!

Searching high and low for birds (literally, from knees on the ground peering into the foliage for a White-bellied Antbird to earning a crick in the neck watching wintering warblers) eight members of the CBC tallied 300 species of birds, three types of monkey, two versions of sloth, and more happy memories than could fill a Shutterfly photobook while visiting locations in central and western Panama.

Our trip began with a meet and greet at the Radisson Summit golf resort situated atop the continental divide north of Panama City. In addition to reasonably luxurious surroundings for a birding adventure, the hotel grounds offered tantalizing tastes of birds

to be seen including pairs of Amazon parrots flying to roost, more tanagers than a stick could shake, and visits with "our" wintering birds like Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Tennessee Warbler.



*Peering into the foliage for a White-bellied Antbird.*



*Birding along the Canal.*

In the former Canal Zone area, we visited such hallowed-birding-ground sites as Pipeline Road, Summit Ponds, Ammo Dump Ponds, and spent an amazing afternoon at the Rainforest Discovery Center's canopy tower and hummingbird feeder set-up.

With six species of hummingbird flitting literally inches away from observer and camera, it was hard to pick a favorite, although many would consider the male Rufous-crested Coquette perched nearby an entrant in the "Trip Top Five List".

**/Continued P. 6**

## The CBC in Panama - January 2018/Continued

By Steve Shultz

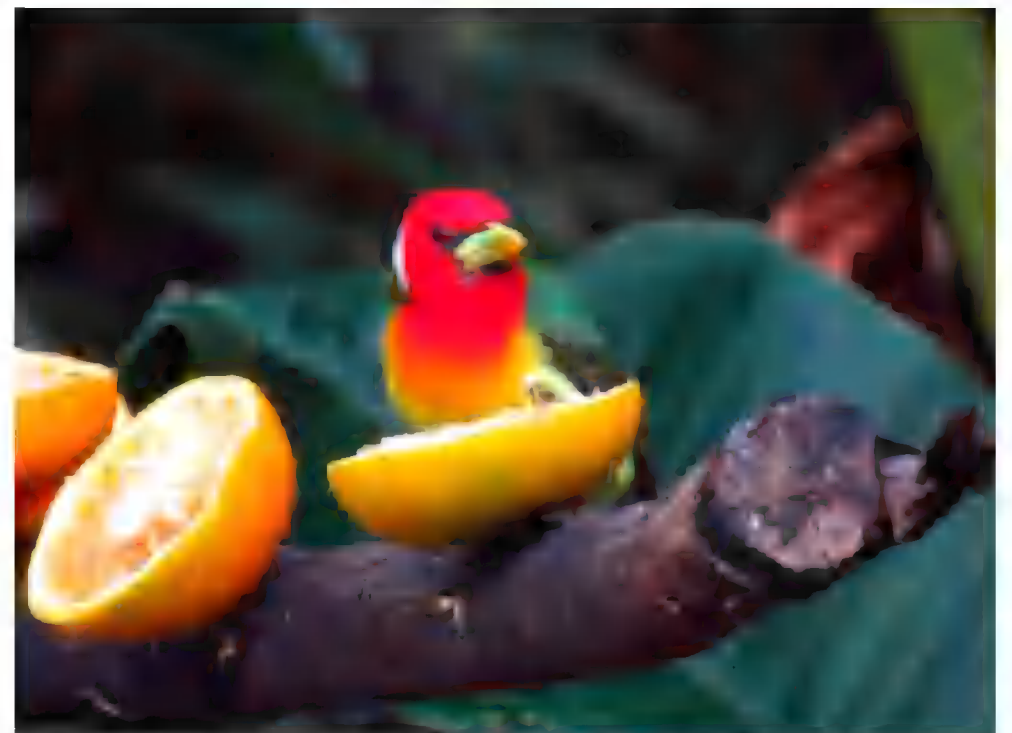


*Flight to David*

Mammals managed to draw our attention away from the birds from time to time, with Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth, Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth, Geoffrey's Tamarin, White-headed Capuchin, and Mantled Howler earning spots on our "mammal list".

Taking a break from the humid jungle, Wednesday afternoon found the group standing in the shadow of Panama City skyscrapers scoping the Pacific Ocean shoreline for waders and shorebirds. Rare-for-the-area Cooi Heron and American White Pelican take the cake for least-common birds, while the sheer number of shorebirds (we counted thousands) impressed.

Leaving the flats, we passed through the busy city once more before catching a late afternoon flight to David in Chiriquí Province. From David a van ride of just over an hour delivered us to Volcan, a tiny town perched on the western flanks of Volcan Baru, Panama's highest point. Trading the lowland heat and humidity for rushing mountain streams, cool breezes, and coffee plantations, our target the next morning was none other than what many consider the most spectacular species in Central America, Resplendent Quetzal.



*Red-headed Barbet.*



*Quetzal.*

We planned two days to try and maximize our chances of seeing this incredible bird, but needed just the first morning, and a walk of about ten yards from the van, to enjoy crippling looks at a pair of quetzals munching on avocados.

The rest of the morning was gravy, but gravy with names like Flame-throated Warbler, Black-cheeked Warbler, Collared Redstart, and Blue-throated Toucanet. We ended the day relaxing beside a rushing mountain stream on the grounds of the Hotel Dos Rios with a refreshing beverage and a Long-billed Starthroat. Does it get any better than this?

Maybe. For some, the highlight of the trip may have been the next morning's visit to Paraiso Birding Paradise near the resort town of Boquette. With forty (!) hummingbird feeders, landowner and birder Mishael Rivera attracts not only hummingbirds like Lesser and Brown Violetear, but with native habitat optimized for birds, an impressive list of non-hummers as well.

We tallied highlights including Sunbittern, Fiery-billed Aracaris (attending a feeding platform) and Lessor's Motmot while learning about land conservation issues and initiatives in this rapidly-growing area.

And what better way to celebrate another incredible morning of birding than with a cup of fresh Panamanian coffee from a shady hilltop patio? While visiting the Janson Coffee Farm we not only got to taste and enjoy the nuevo-popular Geisha Coffee, some of the most exclusive and expensive coffee in the world, but more trip ticks like the White-winged Tanager flitted in the trees just a few feet away!



*Birding at the coffee farm.*



*Fiery-billed Aracari.*

Many would argue their favorite location, and may make a valid claim, but certainly a week with seven species of manakin, four each of motmot and trogon, the quetzal, and 21 species of warbler must be in the running!

After another impressive day in the highlands on Saturday, the group birded downslope to the David airport, picking up the world's second smallest raptor, Pearl Kite, just before catching the evening flight to Panama City. As the plane descended past the brilliantly lit Bridge of the Americas to a landing in the capital, we had to wonder: is this the best birding spot in Central America?



*Dinner at the Hotel Dos Rios.*

# Finding the Best Birding Binoculars

By Gary Harbour

After three years as a Birder, using my Nikon Monarch 5 binoculars, I decided I was serious enough to treat myself to a new and better pair. The Monarch 5 was a great binocular to start with given the price point. For my search for an upgrade I began by asking for recommendations from Greenville County Bird Club members, who have a very active email list, as well as carolinabirds@duke.edu. I also did a lot of online research, as well as visiting Cabela's, which from what I know has the biggest selection of Binoculars in-store in the Greenville area. This led me to what I thought were the top three Binoculars, for birders, currently on the market.

**Swarovski EL 8.5x42**

**Leica Noctivid 8x42**

**Zeiss Victory SF**

I took an extended simultaneous look at all three, and I thought I would share my thoughts for anyone interested. I ordered all three pairs on-line from B&H Photo in NYC, who have a generous 30 day return policy. My intent was to do head-to-head testing and keep only the pair that I loved.



*Leica Noctivid 8x42*

I started with the Noctivid, which is Leica's follow on to the popular Ultravid. These glasses had vivid color that popped out at you. I'm very-slightly color blind and have some trouble with distinguishing shades of red and green. But not with these. They pop so much you can't miss them, they're supernatural. Overall the view is a bit "saturated" and "under-exposed" which allows the viewer to see details and color very clearly. They also have phenomenal 3D perception. When looking at landscapes I could see the lay of the land like I'd never seen it before. This was partially due to their exceedingly large depth of field. I also noticed a big difference in weight from my Monarchs, these glasses are heavy. They are so packed with glass they were hard for me to hold up for longer periods. They also had a much larger Field of View (FOV) verses the Monarchs.

Next I tried out the Zeiss Victory SF. They're claim to fame is a super-large FOV. To give you an idea, the FOV (@1000m) for my Monarch's is 108m, the Noctivid's 135m, and the Victory's is a whopping 148m. While 135m verses



*Zeiss Victory SF*

148m might sound like it's only 9%, remember, as a viewer it's not only the width of the FOV that matters, but rather the entire circle of the FOV, which, goes up with the square of the radius. So the Victory has 20% more viewing area than the Noctivid, which is the first thing that strikes you when you look through these glasses. I found this allowed me to locate birds in the bush and find and follow birds in flight more easily. By getting on them quicker I could see more details and make more positive IDs. The Victory's were also a surprising pleasure to use, despite being the longest binoculars in the bunch. It turns out, the length allowed Zeiss to use fewer and lighter lenses and put more of the lens weight at the eye-piece end. This makes them the lightest pair in the group as well as bringing that weight in toward the user, making them feel even lighter.

So what's the downside? Well they don't have quite the color pop or the 3D effect of the Noctivids. I put this down to a slightly "less saturated" or "more-exposed" image, which to my eye gave a very natural look. But in comparison things look a little washed out by the brightness of these glasses when directly compared to the Noctivids. Despite the "exposure" difference of the two glasses, they were equivalent, to my eye, in low light conditions. I only found an issue with intense light.



***Swarovski EL 8.5x42***

The third pair of binoculars that I looked at were the Swarovski's. They were nice glasses, but they are by now an 8-year old design (2010), where the Zeiss are 1 year old and the Ultravid brand new. I think they suffer a little from needing an update to catch up. They have a nice design and good feel, but I couldn't find anything particularly to make them stand out against the two newer designs.

They do have 8.5x magnification vs 8x for the others but this was practically meaningless in my hands. I used the USAF-1951 T-21 resolution chart set at different distances in different lights and could not tell the difference between any of these binoculars. Finally, the Swarovski's (partly due to the 8.5x) have

the smallest FOV at 133m. This gave me the feeling of looking through a long tube with dark (black) rings blocking my peripheral vision. The close focus distance on these was nice, but practically matched by the Zeiss.

I took the Zeiss Victory SF's to the winter meeting of the Carolina Bird Club in Wrightsville Beach, and was very happy with them. They let me quickly pick out a Parasitic Jaeger, with it's dark grey form, chasing a Ring-billed Gull, over a dark ocean under full cloud-cover before they disappeared down the coast. I also enjoyed my views of the Red-cockaded Woodpeckers amongst the pines of Holly Shelter Game Land. Next time you see me, I be wearing a pair of Zeiss Victory SF's around my neck.

Good Birding,  
Gary



***Gary Harbour Birding with his Zeiss Victory SF Binoculars.***

**A note to recommend B&H Photo:**

**No sales tax, no shipping, generous return policy, fair prices, always available for "online chat" (and...if you ask they will give you an instant discount on anything.)**

**I was offered from \$50 to \$300 discounts on each of the binoculars just by asking.**

**The Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**, is a non-profit educational and scientific association open to anyone interested in the study and conservation of wildlife, particularly birds. The Club meets each winter, spring, and fall at different locations in the Carolinas. Meeting sites are selected to give participants an opportunity to see many different kinds of birds. Guided field trips and informative programs are combined for an exciting weekend of meeting with people who share an enthusiasm and concern for birds. The Club offers research grants in avian biology for undergraduate and graduate students, and scholarships for young birders. The Club publishes two periodicals: *The Chat* (published online only) is a quarterly ornithological journal that contains scientific articles, reports of bird records committees and bird counts and general field notes on bird sightings. The *CBC Newsletter* is published bimonthly (on line and in hard copy) and includes birding articles and information about meetings, field trips and Club news. By becoming a member, you support the activities of the Club, receive reduced registration fee for meetings, can participate in bonus field trips and receive our publications.

**[Join by visiting carolinabirdclub.org](http://carolinabirdclub.org)**

# CBC News and Announcements

**Cornelia Bowling Carrier** from Charleston, SC, who had been a Carolina Bird Club member since 2002, passed away on April 8, 2017. She left a generous monetary gift to support the Young Birders Scholarship Fund.

A Cornelia Carrier Young Birder Scholarship has been created, which will provide at least one full paid scholarship yearly. The Carolina Bird Club wishes to express its deep gratitude for her gift. For years to come this gift will support the youth who will carry on the preservation and conservation of wildlife, particularly the birds of the Carolinas.



*Cornelia Bowling Carrier.*

## 2017-2018 Awarded Grants

Geotagging Seaside Sparrow and Painted Buntings researching their seasonal breeding/wintering grounds in South Carolina

Investigating spatial patterns of mercury and rodenticide burdens in raptors

Assessing breeding-season home ranges of Hermit Thrush in Black Mountain NC

Avian Conservation Center in Charleston for education and medical support

Equipment for a new program "Birding the Barrier Islands" at Cape Hatteras Ocean Center

## Ongoing Conservation Effort

**Rocky Point Community Forest in Georgetown County, SC.**

CBC participated, in 2015, in a unique conservation partnership that acquired land for public recreation and native forest restoration. Follow the link to read about the latest steps towards the opening of Rocky Point Community Forest. Winyah Rivers Foundation will monitor this community forest. There will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new boat ramp date to be determined. The Public Park opening will be later spring or summer. Follow progress at: [https://www.facebook.com/events/1638405619614316/?active\\_tab=about](https://www.facebook.com/events/1638405619614316/?active_tab=about)

### Wanted:

- Do you have a meeting snapshot to share? Send to [webmaster@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:webmaster@carolinabirdclub.org)
- Articles for the newsletter, such as book reviews, festivals, rallies, etc. of interest or birding technology, hotspot reviews, anything in regards to the CBC mission.
- Donate your gently used guide and bird related books to Seasonal Meeting. The sales are donated to the Young Birders.
- Please inform CBC of any local camps, workshops or training programs for Young Birders in your area. They will be added to a list of possible Scholarship awarded events for young birders. Send to: [ycb@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:ycb@carolinabirdclub.org)

# Welcome New CBC Members!

Louisa Adam  
Chapin, SC

Sasha Azevedo  
North Charleston, SC

Donna, Haley & Hunter Bradford  
Raleigh, NC

Howard Browsers  
Waynesville, NC

Barbara Carter  
Fayetteville, NC

Ronald Cedrone  
Charlotte, NC

Andrea & Richard Ceonzo  
Durham, NC

Judith Davis  
Brevard, NC

Dorsey Dunn  
Pinehurst, NC

Shelia Ellia  
Taylorsville, NC

Douglas Hughes  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC

Phoebe Kilby  
Asheville, NC

Laura Krebs  
Snowflake, AZ

Sara Lawrey  
Washington, VA

Sarah Lenda  
Raleigh, NC

Robert & Paula McLean  
Baltimore, MD

Anita McQuillen  
Greenville, SC

Nora Murdock  
Bat Cave, NC

Rebecca Pegueros  
Fayetteville, NC

Michael Plauche  
Pisgah Forest, NC

Jean Roland  
Whiteville, NC

Pamela Smith  
Holden Beach, NC

Sharon & Rick Yomtob  
Alcolu, SC

Paula & Eric Zellner  
Fayetteville, NC

The Carolina Bird Club is a non-profit organization that represents and supports the birding community in the Carolinas through its website, publications, meetings, workshops, trips, and partnerships, whose mission is

- To promote the observation, enjoyment, and study of birds.
- To provide opportunities for birders to become acquainted, and to share information and experience.
- To maintain well-documented records of birds in the Carolinas.
- To support the protection and conservation of birds and their habitats and foster an appreciation and respect of natural resources.



Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

**Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**  
**1809 Lakepark Drive**  
**Raleigh, NC 27612**

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at Pinehurst, NC 28374  
and additional mailing offices

## Upcoming CBC Meetings

**Fall 2018—Greenville, SC**

**Winter 2019—Outer Banks, NC**

**Spring 2019—Southern Pines, NC**

### CBC Board Members

**President**, Christine Stoughton-Root,  
Merritt, NC  
[cssrbdr@gmail.com](mailto:cssrbdr@gmail.com)

#### **Vice Presidents**

Craig Watson, Mt. Pleasant, SC  
Sherry Lane, Wilmington, NC  
Steve Tracy, Gastonia, NC

#### **Secretary**

Jill Midgett, Charleston, SC

#### **Treasurer**

Paul Dayer, Durham, NC

#### **NC Members-at-Large**

Lester Coble, Ernul, NC  
Karyl Gabriel, High Point, NC  
Katherine Higgins, Wilmington, NC  
Marilyn Westphal, Hendersonville,  
NC

#### **SC Members-at-Large**

Steve McInnis, Columbia, SC  
Mac Williams, Hartsville, SC

**Immediate Past President** : Irvin Pitts

**Editor of The Chat**– Steve Shultz

**Website Editor**: Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC

**Headquarters Secretary**: Carol Bowman, Pinehurst, NC,  
[hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org)

**CBC Newsletter Editor**: Vivian Glover, Orangeburg, SC,  
[newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org)

**Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of  
December, February, April, June, August, and October.**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)**

The **CBC Newsletter** is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937 the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. **Current dues are**: Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments).

**Membership dues** include access to publications: the **CBC Newsletter** and **The Chat**, which is only available on line. Tax deductible as required by law.

**Cost for CBC bird checklists**, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

**Join the CBC** at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/dues/>. Enter change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile/>. Order checklists from: CBC Headquarters Secretary, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Copyright © 2018.

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Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

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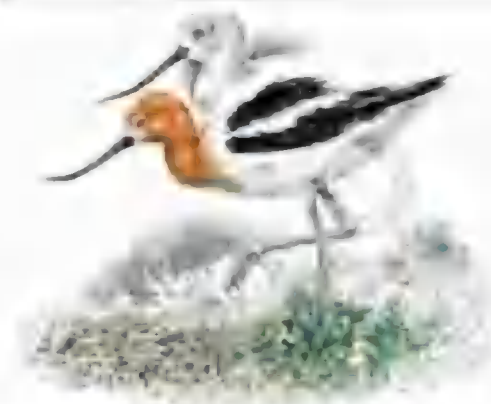
Number 4

## Greenville CBC Fall Birding Weekend in the Mountains September 21-22, 2018—A Fall Color and Bird Migration Festival By Lester Coble



### This is from the amazing, great folks at Hilton Pond:

"The northwest corner of the state contains South Carolina's small but beautiful share of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Here, several state parks and adjoining lands lie at altitudes above 3,000 feet, providing nesting habitat for birds that otherwise are found much further north. The general area is called Mountain Bridge, a ridge-top region that starts along U.S. 11 at Jones Gap State Park and Sassafras Mountain and meanders west past Caesar's Head, Table Rock, and eventually to Oconee State Park. This is the only place in the state where Northern Ravens occur regularly—a species that seeks out the wilderness that abounds in this rugged mountain region. Caesar's Head, Sassafras Mountain, and the Walhalla Fish Hatchery are the only known South Carolina breeding sites for Dark-eyed Juncos—those northern "snowbirds" that occur commonly in winter at backyard feeders throughout the state. Red Crossbills, Chestnut-sided and Black-throated Blue warblers, and Sharp-shinned Hawks have also bred at Caesar's Head. Intensive summer field work in the Mountain Bridge region someday might confirm South Carolina nestings for Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and several warblers including Blackburnian, Blue-winged, Canada, Cerulean and Golden-winged. /Continued P.2



### Opportunities for Young Birders

Carolina Bird Club offers scholarships for birders 19 and under living in the Carolinas, who are members of the Carolina Young Birders Club. Scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.

For more information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)

**The 2018 scholarship recipient is on page 12.**

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## Greenville CBC Fall Birding Weekend in the Mountains/Continued September 21-22, 2018—A Fall Color and Bird Migration Festival

By Lester Coble

With all this potential for new discoveries, it's no wonder serious birders spend a few days each summer at Mountain Bridge. Irvin Pitts (CBC Past-President), who did extensive field work with birds during his years as naturalist at Caesar's Head State Park, says the "whole Blue Ridge province is at the very southern edge of many species' ranges, so you never know what northern birds might be found breeding there. All in all, the South Carolina mountains are a fairly contiguous stretch of protected property, much of which is accessible to public birding."

Envision bridges from mountain top to mountain top, habitats starkly opposed to the sideslopes and valleys stretched between, where Dark-eyed Juncos, Summer Tanagers and Northern Waterthrushes seek their mates. Brisk mountain tops to swift flowing creeks, sunny and bright capped are these peaks, to shaded water courses, deep within narrow valleys, only capturing light in mid-day. The western United States is known for birds inhabiting limited elevations and vertical migration from mountain top zones to lower side slopes in winter. But did you know this also occurs in the eastern U.S.? There is much to learn about these variations to what we think when migration is mentioned. Late September is the time to seek out the bird life moving down these emblazoned fall-colored slopes, or moving on to South American "vacations."

It was 2012 when CBC held its last Birding Weekend at Greenville. This year's event takes place from our host hotel, the Greenville Marriott, 1 Parkway East, Greenville, South Carolina. Call for reservations at 864-297-0300. Check-in time is 3 PM and check-out noon. This is a valuable location at Exit 54 (Pelham Road) in Interstate 85, allowing excellent access to the varied birding sites the Greenville County Bird Club has worked diligently with the CBC Board to obtain access. We owe them our gratitude. Exit 54 has numerous restaurants adjacent the hotel. Room rate has been negotiated \$123/night. Breakfast will be available 6 AM at a 20% discount to CBC participants.



*Greenville Marriott*

Our speaker Friday evening will be Tim Lee, hawk watch coordinator at Caesars Head State Park. We will have a Hawk Watch each afternoon at Caesars Head which will complement his remarks and your newly learned or rediscovered raptor ID skills. Saturday night, after a buffet meal, we will hear from Dr. Drew Lanham, professor at Clemson University. Dr. Lanham is also a Board member with the American Birding Association and National Audubon Society.



*Caesars Head Overlook & Hawk Watch*

The Friday evening business meeting, followed by the presentation will begin 7:00 P.M.

Saturday evenings Program activities begin 7:15 P.M. The Saturday evening dinner banquet is \$35 per person. Please sign up for the buffet dinner on the CBC website if you complete your trip selections online.

All trips will leave from the hotel. It will be advantageous to stay at the Marriott, one of a only a few venues able to host our growing organization. Please reserve your room to thank them for their hospitality and assist CBC with this conference planning.

**Be sure to visit the Conference Registration table as soon as you register at the hotel and sign in for the meeting. Your meeting packet will include a confirmed event schedule.**

Online registration begins August 11 at 2:00 PM and closes September 15 at 8:00 AM  
Walk-in registrations are accepted at the meeting.

The Hotel Cut-off date for the reduced rate of \$123 plus taxes is August 31, 2018

September 8th by 8:00 AM, is the last day you can cancel and receive a refund. Email the Headquarters' Secretary at [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org). If you have to cancel after the refund cut-off date, please also notify the Headquarters' Secretary so that we can give your field trip space to someone on the waiting list.

### Friday, Sept 21

#### Half Day Friday Morning, 9/21

Trip #1 Cedar Falls County Park – 7:15 AM

Trip #2 Bunched Arrowhead Heritage Preserve – 7:00 AM

Trip #3 Cottonwood Trail – 7:00 AM

Trip #4 Lake Conestee Nature Park – 7:30 AM

Trip #5 The Wilson Farm – 7:15 AM

Trip #6 Nine Times Preserve – 6:30 AM

### Saturday, Sept 22

#### Half Day Saturday Morning, 9/22

Trip #21 Cottonwood Trail – 7:00 AM

Trip #22 Bunched Arrowhead Heritage Preserve – 7:00 AM

Trip #23 N. Greenville County Lakes Tour – 7:15 AM

Trip #24 Cleveland Park – 7:30 AM

Trip #25 The Wilson Farm – 7:15 AM

Trip #26 Nine Times Preserve – 6:30 AM

Trip #27 Photography Workshop – 7:15 AM

#### Half Day Friday Afternoon, 9/21

Trip #8 Furman University and SwanLake – 1:00 PM

Trip #9 Cedar Falls County Park – 1:15 PM

Trip #10 N. Greenville County Lakes Tour – 1:00 PM

Trip #11 Lake Conestee Nature Park – 1:30 PM

Trip #12 Hawk Watch at Caesar's Head State Park –  
1:00PM

Trip #13 Cleveland Park – 1:30 PM

#### Half Day Saturday Afternoon, 9/22

Trip #29 Cottonwood Trail – 1:00 PM

Trip #30 Cedar Falls County Park – 1:15 PM

Trip #31 Bunched Arrowhead Heritage Preserve –  
1:15 PM

Trip #32 Cleveland Park – 1:30 PM

Trip #33 Furman University and SwanLake – 1:30 PM

Trip #34 Hawk Watch at Caesar's Head State Park –  
1:00 PM

#### All Day, Friday 9/21

Trip #15 Nine Times Preserve and Sassafras  
Mountain– 7:00 AM

Trip #16 Ashmore Heritage Preserve and  
Persimmon Ridge Road – 7:00 AM

Trip #17 Jones Gap State Park and Old Fish  
Hatchery – 7:15 AM

Trip #18 Blue Wall Preserve and FENCE – 7:15 AM

Trip #19 The Cottonwood Trail and Croft State Park –  
7:15 AM

#### All Day, Saturday 9/22

Trip #36 Nine Times Preserve and Sassafras Mountain  
– 7:00 AM

Trip #37 Lake Conestee Nature Park – 7:30 AM

Trip #38 Green Mountain and Oil Camp Road –  
7:15 AM

Trip #39 Caesar's Head State Park and Hawk Watch at  
Caesar's Head – 7:15 AM

Trip #40 The Cottonwood Trail and Croft State  
Natural Area – 7:30 AM

# Greenville CBC Fall Birding Weekend Meeting Notes

- All field trips have a limit of 15 participants.
- Plan to bring water, snacks and lunch for the all-day trips since there may not be food available along the route unless otherwise noted in the field trip description.
- Water and snacks are also a good idea for the half-day field trips.
- All trips will leave from the hotel at the times indicated on the schedule. Look for the placard with your trip number. There will be a sheet with all directions for your trips e-mailed to you in advance. Please bring it on each trip as caravans sometimes break down and, if so, you'll still be able to get to the trip site. Get the leader's cell number before you leave, just in case.
- If you prefer to meet the group at the site, be sure to inform the leader and make a notation on the field trip attendee list so the leader will not be looking for you at the hotel.
- The times listed on the sign-in sheets are when cars are lined up in the parking lot and leaving. Please be there at least 10 minutes early and identify yourself to the leader. If you decide not to go on a trip, either scratch through your name beforehand on the supplied lists on the registration tables or tell the leader. Please consider doing this in advance so others may use the open spot if desired.
- We try to take as few vehicles as possible on field trips to make caravanning easier and to make better use of the limited parking that exists at some stops. Please plan and expect carpooling. If you would like to drive and have room for new or old friends, please let your trip leader know.

**FEES: There are entry fees at State Parks.**

**SC State Park Passes allow free access to all participants in the vehicle.**

**Lake Conestee Nature Park has a suggested \$3 donation per visitor.**

## 2018 Greenville Meeting Field Trip Descriptions

### Half Day Trips

#### Trips 1, 9, and 30: Cedar Falls County Park

This site in southern Greenville County is where the Reedy River widens to over 200 feet, cascading over rocks and boulders, to create one of the most geologically significant vistas on the river. We will search for lingering resident species such as Hooded Warbler and Northern Parula as well as Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Migrants, well..., let your warbler imagination wander.

**Approximate driving distance: 22 miles one way**

**Facilities: Public restrooms are available. Drinking fountain.**

**Access conditions: Moderate walking on paved and natural surface trails.**

#### Trips 2, 22 and 31: Bunched Arrowhead Heritage Preserve

Located near the town of Travelers Rest, the 178-acre Bunched Arrowhead Heritage Preserve was acquired by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources for the purposes of protecting the federally-endangered Bunched Arrowhead (*Sagittaria fasciculata*), a plant found in wetland seeps within Piedmont seepage forest habitats. Other rare plants that occur here include the Dwarf-flowered Heartleaf (*Hexastylis naniflora*) and the unusual Climbing Fern (*Lygodium palmatum*). This special place also contains diverse habitats that support an excellent variety of birds. We will spend most of our time exploring the brushy and grassy fields, upland mixed pine-hardwood forests, and bottomland hardwoods from a 1.25-mile loop trail that begins and ends at the parking lot. Along the way we hope to see such birds as Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-eyed Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, wood warblers; Field Sparrow, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting and many others.

**Approximate driving distance: 16 miles one way.**

**Facilities: No public restrooms on site.**

**Access conditions: Walking primarily on natural surface trails along uneven terrain.**

#### Trips 3, 21 and 29: Cottonwood Trail – On the Edwin M. Griffin Nature Preserve

**Note Cottonwood Trail is combined with Croft State Natural Area (#19 and #40) as full day trips.**

The Cottonwood Trail Preserve, an ebird hotspot, is currently a 115 acre urban preserve and trail system. Located minutes from downtown Spartanburg, the property protects a 1.5 mile stretch of Lawson's Fork Creek and several feeder streams. The preserve serves as an important water quality buffer in a fast growing region as well as providing habitat for a myriad of plants and animals. Over 5 miles of trails offer runners and naturalists a break from city traffic. This urban greenspace has many outstanding features including several wetlands, open spaces, geological formations, and offers habitat for deer, wild turkey, fox, beaver, raccoon, numerous birds and reptiles, wildflowers, and trees.

**Approximate driving distance: 27 miles each way.**

**Facilities: No public restrooms at our destination, though we may stop at a local gas station.**

**Access conditions: Easy to moderate walking on natural surface trails and boardwalks.**

/Continued P.6

## 2018 Greenville Meeting Field Trip Descriptions

### Half Day Trips

#### Trips 4 and 11: Lake Conestee Nature Park

Located only 7 miles from downtown Greenville, the 400 acre Lake Conestee Nature Park is one of the top birding hot-spots in upstate South Carolina. The diverse habitat includes lakes, pines and mixed deciduous woodland, transitional fields and the Reedy River floodplain with its extensive associated woodlands. 218 species have been reliably reported, 132 of them in September.

Species that occur here include a variety of waterfowl (Wood Ducks are permanent residents), several species of wading birds, and a significant diversity of songbirds including many neotropical migrants. We hope to encounter a variety of migrants such as Swainson's Thrush, a number of wood warblers including Northern Parula, American Redstart, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia and others as well as Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting and Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

**LCNP is managed by the non-profit Conestee Foundation which suggests a \$3 per person donation (donation boxes available in the park).**

**Approximate driving distance: 10.5 miles each way.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms. Drinking fountain.**

**Access conditions: Easy walking on constructed boardwalks, paved and natural surface trails.**

#### Trips 5 and 25: The Wilson Farm

Located in the rolling hills of northern Greenville County near the town of Marietta, the Wilson Farm is a privately owned 1,300-acre tract that is managed for wildlife. The farm supports a diversity of habitat types including fields, mixed upland woodlands, ponds and stream corridors that attract a diversity of birdlife. We will search for any resident and migratory species that may be present including possible Red-tailed Hawk, Gray Catbird, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting and others. This is a restricted site for which the Greenville County Bird Club has obtained limited access for the CBC.

**Approximate driving distance: 20 miles one way**

**Facilities: No public restrooms are available at Wilson Farm.**

**Access conditions: Moderate walking on paved and natural surface trails, and on uneven terrain.**

#### Trips 6 and 26: Nine Times Preserve – Nature Conservancy Preserve

**Note Nine Times Preserve is combined with Sassafras Mountain (#15) as a full day trip**

Named because nine bridges were needed to gain access to the tremendous biologically diverse site, the Nine Times Preserve is a significant eBird Hotspot. The land encompasses five mountains that harbor 134 known species of wildflowers in seven distinct forest types. These habitats mean birds, birds, birds. No wonder it is a magnet for birders.

**Approximate driving distance: 42 miles each way**

**Facilities: No public restrooms at our destination, though we may stop at a local gas station.**

**Access conditions: Easy to moderate walking on varying terrain.**

# 2018 Greenville Meeting Field Trip Descriptions

## Half Day Trips

### Trips 8 and 33: Furman University and Swan Lake

23 species of warbler have been recorded at Furman University, plus an assortment of water birds. We will walk the approximately 1.5 mile circular paved trail around the lake with some short side trips on woodland trails as time allows, looking for migrating warblers among the local resident species. You never know when a rarity will show up, such as the famous brown booby this past spring.

**Approximate driving distance: 16 miles one way.**

**Facilities: Restroom access throughout the walk area.**

**Access conditions: Easy walking on paved surfaces.**

### Trips 10 and 23: North Greenville County Lakes

This half-day tour is designed for those seeking shorter walks and provides an excellent opportunity for sampling the birdlife associated with some of north Greenville County's lakes. Our first destination will be the Lake Cunningham Recreation Area. Here we will take a short walk around the parking area and boardwalk examining the shoreline habitat and open water for any species that may be present. Our next stop is Berry's Millpond, a 100-year old reservoir that once powered the historic Berry's Mill, established in 1820. We will explore this beautiful location during a short 30-minute walk.

From there we will travel to nearby Lake Robinson to check out the area near the dam followed by a brief exploration of a nice wetland area near the upper end of that lake. During our trip we hope to find such species as Osprey, possible migrating Caspian Tern, wading birds, and early-arriving waterfowl such as Blue-winged Teal along with migrant and resident songbirds.

**Approximate driving distance: 11 miles to Lake Cunningham. 16 miles back to the Marriott from the upper end of Lake Robinson.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms at Lake Cunningham and at Lake Robinson.**

**Access conditions: Relatively short and easy walks.**

### Trips 12 and 34: Hawk Watch at Caesar's Head State Park

**No day fee at the overlook. Note this hawk watch is also available as combined with more birding throughout this Park (#33) as a full day trip.**

A granite gneiss outcropping along the dramatic Blue Ridge escarpment gives Caesar's Head State Park its name. Here our participants will be treated to the annual hawk watch program with views into North Carolina and Georgia. The Park is part of over 13,000 acres of the pristine southern mountain forest called the Mountain Bridge Wilderness, termed to reflect the tops of peaks in the area that harbor conditions more similar to northern latitudes.

**Approximate driving distance: 40 miles each way.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms**

**Access conditions: easy walking.**

### Trips 13, 24 and 32: Cleveland Park

Cleveland Park is a popular and diverse city park located in downtown Greenville that was first developed in 1928. It is an ebird hotspot. Here, we will search for migrant songbirds along some of the developed trails that wind through the park.

**Approximate driving distance: 10 miles each way**

**Facilities: Public restrooms**

**Access conditions: Easy walking on paved and natural surface trails**

**/Continued P.8**

## 2018 Greenville Meeting Field Trip Descriptions

### Half Day Trip

#### Trip 27: Warbler Photography Workshop– Maximum of 8 Participants

A local outdoor photographer will provide clues on light conditions and tips on capturing active small avian delights. The workshop will begin indoors at the host hotel for approximately an hour. The workshop is for DSLR users but bridge-camera users are welcome too. The location for the outdoor portion will be Lake Conestee Nature Park. Quoting the leader, “The workshop will be directed more toward the photographer in you rather than the birder.”

### All Day Trips

#### Trip 15 and 36: Nine Times Preserve and Sassafras Mountain (See trip #6 and 26 for a description.)

At 3,560 feet Sassafras Mountain is the highest point in South Carolina and is a long-visited destination by birders seeking such mountain species as Ruffed Grouse, Common Raven and a variety of Neotropical songbirds typical of the mid-elevation Southern Appalachian forest. This scenic location will be one of our primary stops as we search for these and other birds. We will also visit the Nine Times Preserve that is owned and managed by the Nature Conservancy. This 560-acre biologically-significant preserve harbors a number of forest types and unique rock outcrop plant communities that supports a diverse assemblage of native wildflowers and wildlife. We hope to find a variety of Neotropical species like Swainson's Thrush, Tennessee Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, tanagers and grosbeaks. Part of our time here will be spent exploring the different plant communities along the recently constructed 1.7 mile trail. During the course of our tour, we will make other roadside stops and search cultivated fields and woodlands in the East-toe Creek area. We will hope a tower at the summit, under construction, is complete.

**Approximate driving distances: 41 miles to Nine Times Preserve, 51 miles to hotel from Sassafras Mountain.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms availability is very limited, though we will seek a stop along the way.**

**Access conditions: Moderate walking conditions along natural surface trails and on uneven terrain with some possible steep inclines.**

#### Trip 16: Ashmore Heritage Preserve and Persimmon Ridge Road

The Ashmore Preserve and area is over 1,125 acres on the southside of Caesar's Head and west of Green Mountain and Naturaland Trust property. We'll hike up Persimmon Road and return via Lake Wattacoo (about 4 miles) with its natural bog. A beaver pond below the dam offers additional bird habitat. We'll also visit Eva Russel Chandler Heritage Preserve with its secluded bald and Slickum Falls (1 mile). Below the bald is an acidic bog with thick lichen mats, prickly pear cactus and the mountain sweet pitcher plant (*Sarracenia rubra*). Persimmon Ridge Road is a steep, one-lane, road. High clearance vehicles with all-wheel drive are recommended. Expected sightings include Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Pileated Woodpecker, Common Raven, Black-and-white Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, American Redstart, and Black-throated Green Warbler.

**Approximate driving distances: 23 miles to meet our leader then about 8 miles on country roads with additional local driving.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms are limited, though we will strive to make a stop along the way.**

**Access conditions: Roadside birding along with moderate walking conditions on natural surfaced trails, woods roads and on uneven terrain.**



## 2018 Greenville Meeting Field Trip Descriptions-All Day Trips

### Trip 17: Jones Gap State Park and The Old Fish Hatchery

Part of the Mountain Bridge Wilderness encompassing Caesar's Head, Ashmore Heritage Preserve, Cleveland Cliffs, and Green Mountain (over 11,000 acres) Jones Gap allows us access to explore some prime areas for migrants. Elevation is a valuable clue when birding throughout the Wilderness. During the course of our tour, and if time allows, we may also visit additional local birding hot-spots along the way. The State's first scenic river runs through the park, the Middle Saluda River.

**Approximate driving distances: 34 miles to the Park along with additional local driving.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms are available.**

**Access conditions: Roadside birding along with moderate walking conditions on natural surfaced trails, woods roads and on uneven terrain.**

### Trips 18: The Blue Wall Preserve and FENCE

Located near Landrum in the northeast corner of Greenville County, the Blue Wall Preserve was acquired by the Nature Conservancy in 1997 and is part of a mosaic of protected lands within the Blue Ridge Escarpment of the Southern Appalachians that totals more than 20,000 acres. Designated by the Audubon Society as an Important Bird Area, this preserve protects a diverse assemblage of plant communities that includes upland hardwoods, successional pine forests and open water lakes. In this beautiful landscape, we will seek out such birds as migrant vireos and thrushes, wood warblers including Black-throated Blue, American Redstart, Magnolia, and Hooded as well as Scarlet Tanager and Rose-breasted Grosbeak along with a variety of others. This trip will also include a visit to the Foothills Equestrian Nature Center, better known as FENCE. This non-profit nature and outdoor recreation center contains 384 acres of attractive hardwood forests, meadows and wetlands and is managed for the purposes of nature studies, outdoor recreation and equestrian competition. Time allowing, we may also visit other local birding spots in the Lake Lanier area.

**Approximate driving distances: 27 miles to the Blue Wall Preserve - 8 miles to FENCE - 39 miles back to the Greenville Marriott.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms are available at FENCE.**

**Access Conditions: Trail conditions vary from moderate walking on uneven terrain to developed natural surface trails.**

### Trips 19 and 40: Cottonwood Trail and Croft State Park

Located minutes from downtown Spartanburg, the Cottonwood Trail Preserve is an urban gem, protecting a 1.5-mile stretch of Lawson's Fork Creek and several of its tributaries. This urban green space was first acquired through the efforts of The Spartanburg Area Conservancy, or SPACE, and is important as a water quality buffer in a fast-growing region. Recognized as a regional birding "hot-spot", particularly during migration, the site contains many interesting and diverse natural habitats such as upland hardwoods, floodplain forests, open space and wetlands. We also plan to visit Croft State Natural Area, a 7,000-acre state park just outside of Spartanburg. Formerly the site of an Army infantry training camp, this state park contains an interesting diverse mix of habitats including upland mixed pine-hardwood forests, bottomland hardwoods and wetlands associated with Fairforest Creek and Lake Tom Moore Craig. Species we hope to find during this tour include such birds as Red-headed Woodpecker, Blue-headed Vireo, Swainson's Thrush, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Cape May Warbler, American Redstart, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and many others. Croft State Natural Area boasts a mosaic of mature woodland and old fields to round out this trip.

**Approximate driving distance: 27 miles to the Cottonwood Trail - 10.5 miles to Croft State Park - 33 miles back to the Greenville Marriott.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms are available at Croft State Natural Area.**

**Access conditions: Moderate walking mainly on natural surface trails with possible uneven terrain and some constructed boardwalks.**

**/Continued P. 10**

## **2018 Greenville Meeting Field Trip Descriptions– All Day Trips**

### **Trip 37: Lake Conestee Nature Park: See Trips #4 and 11 for a description of this tour**

This trip will allow exploration of most of the 400 acre park and include areas not visited in the half-day trips.

**LCNP is managed by the non-profit Conestee Foundation which suggests a \$3 per person donation. (Donation boxes available in the park.)**

**Approximate driving distance: 10.5 miles**

**Facilities: Public restrooms. Drinking fountain.**

**Access conditions: Easy walking on constructed boardwalks, paved and natural surface trails.**

### **Trip 38: Green Mountain and Oil Camp Road**

Situated in the valley of Oil Camp Road is a 139 acre forested gem acquired by Naturaland Trust, which owns an even larger adjacent tract. Boasting an incredible mix of hardwoods, wildlife, and a trout stream Green Mountain adds to the protected lands to strengthen the Mountain Bridge Wilderness. Resident bird species and migrants continually pull local birders to the area. Expected sightings include Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Pileated Woodpecker, Common Raven, Black-and-white Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, American Redstart, and Black-throated Green Warbler.

**Approximate driving distances: 27 miles to meet our leader in Cleveland, SC then about 8 miles on country roads with additional local driving. High clearance vehicles with all-wheel drive are recommended.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms are limited, though we will strive to make a stop along the way.**

**Access conditions: Roadside birding along with moderate walking conditions on natural surfaced trails, woods roads and on uneven terrain.**

### **Trip 39: Caesar's Head State Park and Hawk Watch**

**See Half Day Trips #12 and 34 for a description of this tour.** This is the all-day tour designed to allow further exploration of this South Carolina hotspot gem. Migrant warblers will be the primary target, with lingering resident birds of the higher mountains and side slopes. The hawk watch in at least part of the afternoon will round out the event at the incredible overlook.

**Approximate driving distance: 41 miles one way.**

**Facilities: Public restrooms are available.**

**Access conditions: Roadside birding along with moderate walking conditions on natural surfaced trails, woods roads and on uneven terrain.**

**The Carolina Bird Club is a non-profit organization that represents and supports the birding community in the Carolinas through its website, publications, meetings, workshops, trips, and partnerships, whose mission is**

- To promote the observation, enjoyment, and study of birds.**
- To provide opportunities for birders to become acquainted, and to share information and experience.**
- To maintain well-documented records of birds in the Carolinas.**
- To support the protection and conservation of birds and their habitats and foster an appreciation and respect of natural resources.**
- To promote educational opportunities in bird and nature study.**

# Welcome New CBC Members!

Brandy, Kirk & Ivy Babberl, Swansea, SC

Jennifer Calvin, Asheville, NC,

Randy Cecil, Greenville, SC

Mindy Conner, Winston-Salem, NC

Emily, Peter, Tate, Belle & Bo Curry, Daniel Island, SC

Lynn Dail Davis, Keanansville, NC

Laurel Ela, Hendersonville, NC

Chris King, Columbia, SC

Bob & Julie McGinness, Columbia, SC

Derik Miller, Tega Cay, SC

Robert Powell, Morehead City, NC

Jean & Robert Puphal, Washington, NC

Mary Ridgeway, Hartsville, SC

Bonnie Simmons, Old Fort, NC

Mary Ridgeway, Hartsville, SC

Bonnie Simmons, Old Fort, NC

## CBC Survey Results

By Christine Stoughton Root

**“Seasonal Meeting.” It is the name we've had and it will be the name we keep, according to the survey.”**

**As this newsletter arrives summer is well underway. Hot humid Carolina weather sure doesn't seem to be stopping those rare birds from appearing. It just takes one bird to make the heat and mosquitos all worth it.**

**I thank the board and membership for their support this past year. We say goodbye to three board members who have completed their terms, Lewis Burke, Jeri Smart and Teri Bergen. We appreciated their commitment and hard work. We welcome in Mac Williams of Hartsville as the new SC Member-at-Large, Craig Watson of Mount Pleasant as SC Vice-President and Jill Midgett of Charleston SC as our new Secretary. All three are very energized and ready to get to work.**

**As requested by the Membership, the following locations have been put on the Seasonal Meeting Schedule as follows, Greenville, Fall 2018, Piedmont, Spring 2019 and possibly Charleston, Fall-2019. Every meeting it is more challenging to keep prices down for rooms, banquets and meeting space, as less expensive venues no longer provide meeting and banquet facilities.**

**/Continued P. 12**

## Our 2018 Camp Avocet Young Birder Scholarship Winner.

Richard James Hamlett Gilson "Jamie"  
Jamie 16YOA recently moved to Brevard NC from the Cape May area.  
He attended his first CBC Seasonal Meeting in Flat Rock this spring.



CBC Research, educational and conservation grants are available through the Carolina Bird Club.  
For additional information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).

2018 Jan-May Grant Awards-

April 2018- Yadkin Memorial Park. Informational signage that will tell you about the birds you may see as you walk the paths.

### CBC Survey Results/Continued

Winter/Spring Survey responses were truly appreciated and we look forward to building on this one step at a time.

Listed below are a few Survey recommendations, but we need volunteers to help make it all happen.

**1. Additional Local and International Bonus Trips.**

Any member who wishes to lead a Bonus Trip, be it local, national or international may do so by following the Bonus Trip protocol, accessible on the CBC website. Your questions may be directed to [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org)

Consider contacting other CBC members within your area for a monthly meet-up.

**2. Young birders are looking for local birding talent to lead walks at the county level. Enquiries may respond to [yb@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:yb@carolinabirdclub.org)**

**3. For the website or newsletter, consider writing a monthly article on a bird that is difficult to identify. If you would like to take on this task, respond to [webditor@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:webditor@carolinabirdclub.org)**

**4. Suggest recommendations for Sunday field trips, which will be on the Nags Head schedule for January 2019.**

**Other Survey tallies listed in priority:**

**Recipients of Conservation money Land Acquisitions-Schools-Scholarship/Grants.**

**Factors in considering attending a CBC Seasonal Meeting: Field Trips-Location-Opportunity to build bird expertise-proximity to home.**

**Meeting sites and Bonus Trips, in priority order: NC Mountains-NC Coast-SC Coast-SC Mountains-NC piedmont-SC Piedmont**

**We are always open for suggestions/comments at this link <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/main/contact.html>**

**I look forward to seeing each of you at a future Seasonal Meeting. Expect the Unexpected!**

**Sincerely,**

**Christine Stoughton Root**

## Fall 2018 Greenville, SC Registration Form

**Registration Begins August 11 @2pm. Register online for Best Availability of Field Trips**

Registration closes September 15 @6pm at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Member) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Non-Member) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Buffet Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you registered for the buffet and elect the vegetarian option, check here \_\_\_\_\_. # of persons \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Field Trip Sign-Up	A.M. 1st/2nd Choice	P.M. 1st/2nd Choice	All Day 1st/2nd Choice
Friday	/	/	/
Saturday	/	/	/

To pre-register for Field Trips, place the trip number(s) in the boxes to the right of the days.

**Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club and send to: CBC, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374**  
**Cancellations will be refunded if received by 8:00am on September 8th.**

**Meeting registration at the door costs \$40.**

Before sending in this form, check the website at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org) to see if any of your trips are full, rescheduled or canceled. Processing of mail-in registrations begins when online registration opens.

**Cancellations will be refunded if received by 8:00AM September 8th. Cancel by contacting the Headquarters Secretary at [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org). If you need to cancel after the refund cutoff date, please notify the Headquarters Secretary so we can give your field trip space to someone on the waiting list.**

Club policy requires all field trip participants to comply with the field trip leader's assessment and requests concerning the physical ability of each participant to make or complete the trip.

I will release and discharge (and will not make a claim against) the Carolina Bird Club for injury, death, or property damage arising from my participation at this meeting and/or Club field trips. This release of liability is entered into on behalf of all members of my family, including all minors accompanying me.

I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of any such minors and that I am over 18 years of age.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

**Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**  
**1809 Lakepark Drive**  
**Raleigh, NC 27612**

Periodicals Postage Paid  
at Pinehurst, NC 28374  
and additional mailing offices

## Upcoming CBC Meetings

**Fall 2018—Greenville, SC**

**Winter 2019—Outer Banks, NC**

**Spring 2019—Southern Pines, NC**

### CBC Board Members

**President**, Christine Stoughton-Root,  
Merritt, NC  
[cssrbdr@gmail.com](mailto:cssrbdr@gmail.com)

**Vice Presidents**

Craig Watson, Mt. Pleasant, SC  
Sherry Lane, Wilmington, NC  
Steve Tracy, Gastonia, NC

**Secretary**

Jill Midgett, Charleston, SC

**Treasurer**

Paul Dayer, Durham, NC

**NC Members-at-Large**

Lester Coble, Ernul, NC  
Karyl Gabriel, High Point, NC  
Katherine Higgins, Wilmington, NC  
Marilyn Westphal, Hendersonville,  
NC

**SC Members-at-Large**

Steve McInnis, Columbia, SC  
Mac Williams, Hartsville, SC

**Immediate Past President** : Irvin Pitts

**Editor of The Chat**– Steve Shultz

**Website Editor**: Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC

**Headquarters Secretary**: Carol Bowman, Pinehurst, NC,  
[hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org)

**CBC Newsletter Editor**: Vivian Glover, Orangeburg, SC,  
[newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org)

**Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of  
December, February, April, June, August, and October.**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)—UPDATE**

The *CBC Newsletter* is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937 the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. **Current dues are:** Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments).

**Membership dues** include access to publications: the *CBC Newsletter* and *The Chat*, which is only available on line. Tax deductible as required by law.

**Cost for CBC bird checklists**, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

**Join the CBC** at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/dues/>. Enter change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile/>. Order checklists from: CBC Headquarters Secretary, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Copyright © 2018.

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Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

# CBC Newsletter

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For members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc.,  
Ornithological Society of the Carolinas

Volume 64

October 2018

Number 5

## CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019 Outstanding Birds Xpected

By Christine Stoughton Root and Les Coble



Bob Schamerhorn at Lake Clark

The Seasonal Meeting is one week earlier, January 18-20.

Now you can attend the CBC Meeting and also attend the Space Coast  
Birding and Wildlife Festival, January 23-28.

The CBC host hotel, the Ramada Plaza Nags Head and the Outer Banks,  
extend a warm welcome to members and guests joining us for our  
Winter Seasonal Meeting.

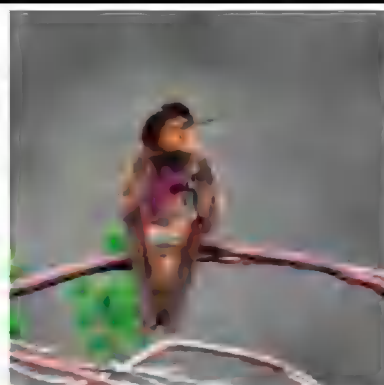
Bob Schamerhorn is our speaker .He is known for his award-winning  
photography, numerous programs, DVDs and books. Access Bob's  
work at his website <http://www.iphotobirds.com>. His latest photo  
award is "National Audubon Society Photography Awards Top 100.

/Continued P. 2

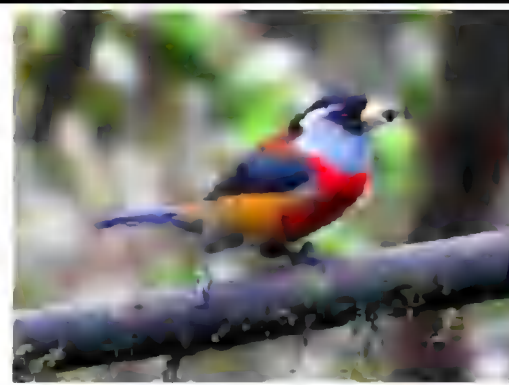
## Ecuador's Fabulous Hummingbirds March 1-10, 2019 With Simon Thompson and Susan Campbell



*Crimson-rumped  
Toucanet -  
Mindó, Ecuador,  
March 2018.  
Photographed by  
Simon Thompson.*



*Shining Sunbeam -  
Antisana, Ecuador,  
April 2018.  
Photographed by  
Simon Thompson.*



*Toucan Barbet -  
Mindó, Ecuador,  
March 2018.  
Photographed  
by Simon  
Thompson.*

Ecuador is the size of the state of Georgia, yet 1,540 species of birds have been recorded in the country. Of these, 133 are hummingbirds. On this Venture we'll travel across the Andes, seeing a dazzling display of tanagers, fly-catchers and hummingbirds; over high, windswept pass to relict patches of the Polylepis Forest for the endemic Black-breasted Puffleg (very rare); through Chocó Cloud Forest, where we hope to find such regional hummingbird endemics as Empress Brilliant, Velvet-purple Coronet; and lower elevation forest on the east slope where we should see Golden-tailed Sapphire, Wire-crested Thorntail and the dramatic Black-throated Brilliant./Continued P.4

CBC Newsletter (USPS# 023-534), June 2018, Volume 64, Number 5. Published bimonthly by the Carolina Bird Club, Inc., 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to CBC Newsletter, Carolina Bird Club, Inc., 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374.

## CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019

### Outstanding Birds Xpected.

By Christine Stoughton Root and Les Coble/Continued

**“Outstanding Birds Xpected.”** The OBX does produce unexpected sightings year-round. Its proximity to the Gulf Stream, its effect on weather along the coast in every month, and the amazing variety of habitats within a few miles of the coast provide the setting for the large daily bird counts available to all. These counts easily can top 100 on an all-day foray most days of the year!

One-hundred and eighty species were recorded at the last OBX Weekend in 2017, with absolutely spectacular calm, comfortable winter weather. A Golden Eagle was seen at Alligator River NWR and an Iceland Gull was seen at Cape Hatteras, as well as the infamous Anna’s Hummingbird. Razorbills and a Dovekie from Jeanette’s Pier made those members with lighter coats still feel warm inside.



*Blackburnian Warbler in bird bath.  
Photographed by Robert W. Schamerhorn.*

The northeast coastline during North Carolina’s winter is probably the best birding location. In recent winters observations have included Common Eider and Harlequin Duck. We should see the three North American Scoter species and possibly Long-tailed Duck on any shoreline watch. We will search for a Ross’s Goose among hundreds of Snow Geese. Eurasian Wigeons are winter regulars at Pea Island, and scattered Horned Grebes can be seen from the beach. With any luck, we could see Iceland or Glaucous Gull at Cape Point and possibly a Thayer’s or California Gull. Interesting passerine observations have included species such as Ash-throated Flycatcher,



*Stormy Petrel II. Offered by Brian Patteson for two pelagic trips.*

Brian Patteson is offering two pelagic trips. Additionally, a variety of field trips will be provided including waterfowl, shorebirds, photography workshops and a trip for those who wish to bird at a slower pace that is also handicapped accessible.

**Note:** Two Sunday morning field trips will be on the schedule. One may allow relocating unusual specie(s) reported.

**Continued P.3**



# CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019

## Outstanding Birds Xpected

By Christine Stoughton Root and Les Coble/Continued



*Ramada Plaza, Nags Head, NC.*

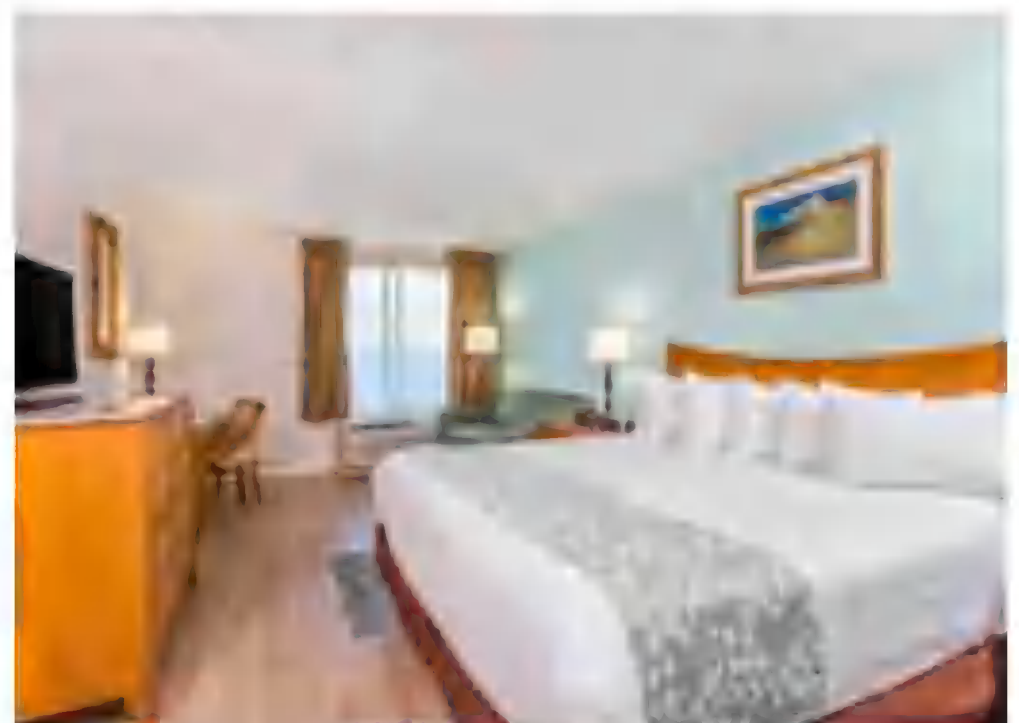
Our host hotel and meeting headquarters is the **Ramada Plaza Nags Head , 1701 South Virginia Dare Trail in Kill Devil Hills.** This Ramada boasts lots of amenities including private balconies, in-room refrigerator and microwave, as well as a heated pool and Jacuzzi. (Just what you need in January!) The CBC rates for this meeting are truly excellent at \$75 per night for an ocean view or \$65 per night for street side.

This cost does not include a 12.75% tax. It does include a hot breakfast buffet starting at 5:30am. A brown-bagged breakfast will be provided for those leaving earlier. Identify yourself as being with the Carolina Bird Club when making your reservation at (800) 635-1824 or (252) 441-2151.

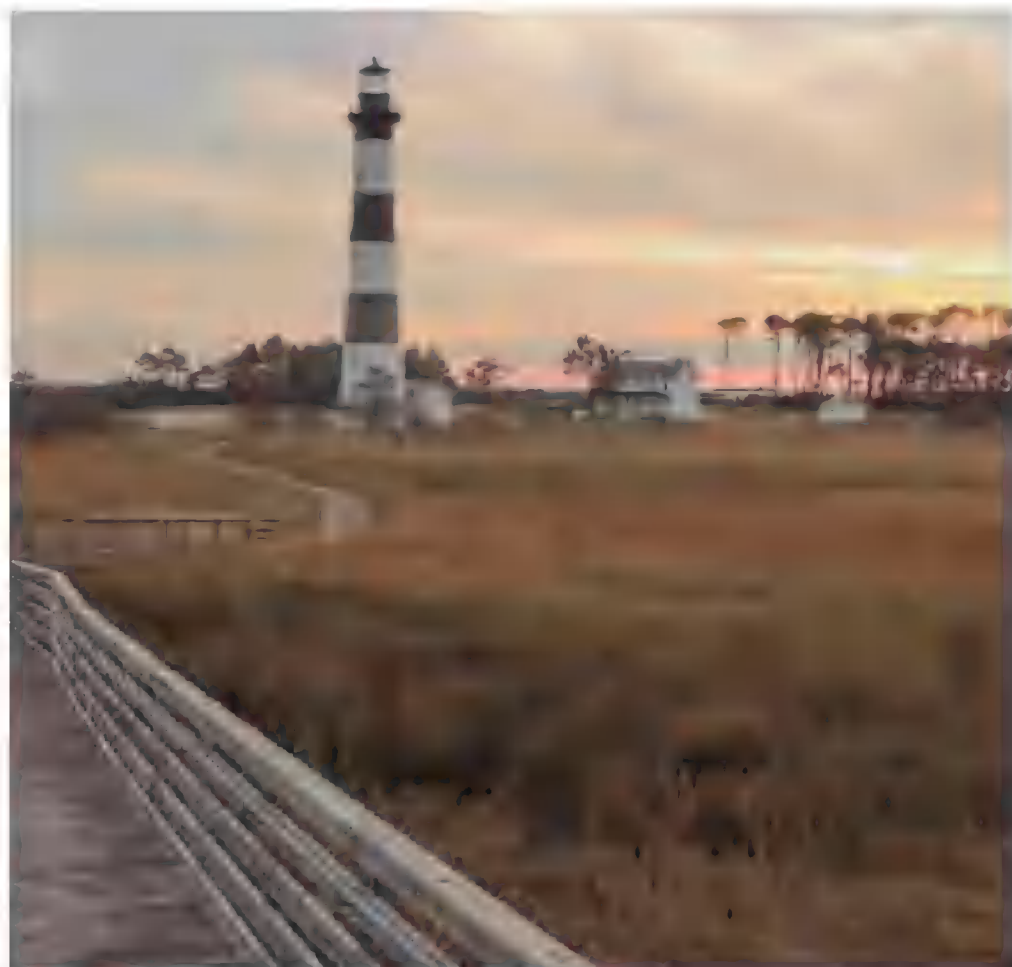
For more information about this welcoming hotel, visit [www.RamadaPlazaNagsHead.com](http://www.RamadaPlazaNagsHead.com).

Please register by December 28, 2018. Check-in is 4:00pm and check-out at 11:00am.

Both Friday and Saturday evenings will host cash bar and social hours: Friday at 6:00pm, with programs beginning at 7:00pm and Saturday at 5:30pm with the buffet dinner starting at 6:30 pm and our program following at 7:15pm.



*Ramada Plaza, Nags Head, NC. King Room with Oceanview.*



*Outer Banks Lighthouse. Photographed by Christine Stoughton-Root*

**Complete Seasonal Meeting details, registration information and trip descriptions will be in the December 2018 issue of the CBC Newsletter and on our website: [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).**

**Ecuador's Fabulous Hummingbirds March 1-10, 2019**  
**With Simon Thompson and Susan Campbell/Continued**



*Quito, Ecuador*

You may wish to arrive in Quito the day before in order to explore the city or rest before the tour starts. Just let us know your flight plans and also whether you will need a hotel room.

Our accommodations will be comfortable and convenient to the best birding spots across the Ecuadorian Andes. The food is excellent and the people very friendly. If you have never been to South America before, this trip to Ecuador will open your eyes to the beauty and diversity of hummingbirds in South America.

**Some of the hummers we hope to see:** Black-breasted Puffleg, Rainbow-bearded Thornbill, both Green-tailed and Black-tailed Trainbearers, Sapphire-vented Puffleg, Giant Hummingbird, Ecuadorian Hillstar, Booted Racket-tail (both races), Brown Violet-Ear, Empress Brilliant, Velvet-Purple Coronet, Green and White-whiskered Hermit, Many-spotted & Violet-headed Hummingbirds, Ecuadorian Piedtail, Golden-tailed Sapphire, Napo Sabrewing, Grey-chinned Hermit, Fork-tailed Woodnymph, Green and Wire-crested Thorntails, Purple-crowned Fairy, White-tipped Sicklebill and Long-billed Starthroat.

The cost of Ecuador's Fabulous Hummingbirds Birding Venture is \$3,795 from Quito, based on double occupancy. For single occupancy, there is an additional supplement of \$450.

**Price Includes:**

Ground transportation in Ecuador, all meals, all taxes, entrance fees, trip information packet, bird list, and Ventures leader and driver and guide service throughout

**Price Does Not Include:**

Flight to Quito, Ecuador, alcoholic beverages, laundry, gratuities and items of a personal nature.

**Registration opens October 1, 2018. Registration Details at [carolinabirdclub.org](http://carolinabirdclub.org)**

**For additional information: The contact is Susan Campbell at [susan@ncaves.com](mailto:susan@ncaves.com).**

**Ten percent of the trip's profit will be donated to the Carolina Bird Club.**

**Bonus Field Trips**

Lets talk about Bonus Field Trips. CBC's intentions are to present the Bonus Field Trips in the newsletter. However, this has proven virtually impossible for most trips. So it is important for those who wish to go on Bonus Field Trips to check the CBC homepage often for notices of upcoming trips. There will be a registration date for every trip; if you miss the sign up date or the list is full, it is important to get onto the wait list. Surprisingly, people do cancel and you may be given the option to attend the trip. Furthermore, if this trip is offered again in the future, you would be given the opportunity to sign up for the trip before it is opened to new signups.

Thank you,  
Christine Stoughton-Root, President, Carolina Bird Club

## Carolina Bird Club Bonus Field Trip - December 1-2, 2018 Lake Mattamuskeet NWR, NC by Steve Shultz

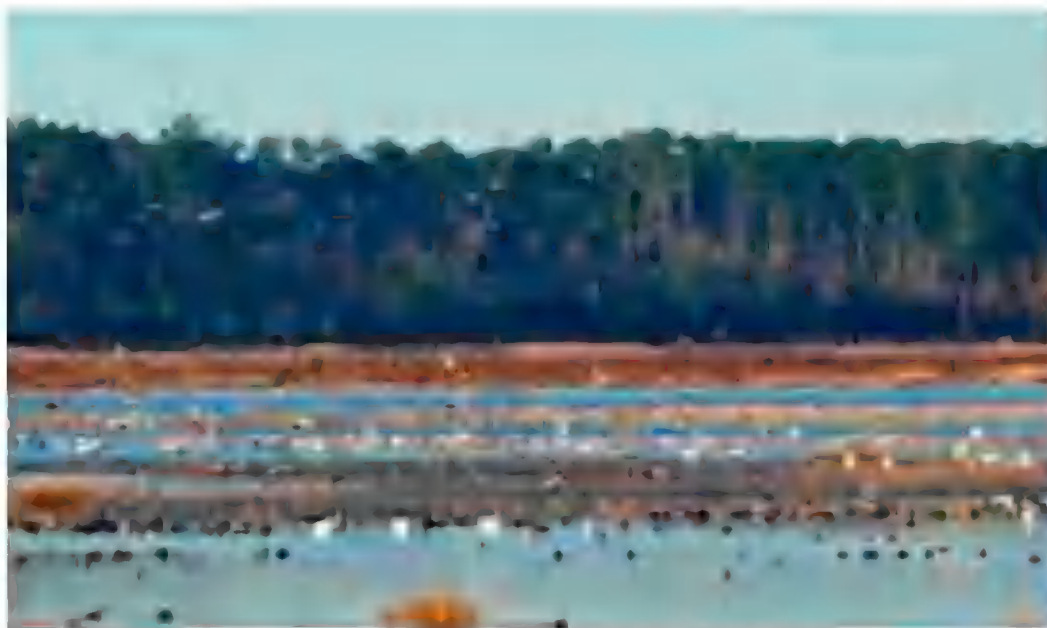
Lake Mattamuskeet, North Carolina's largest natural lake, shines as one of the Atlantic flyway's most impressive sites for wintering waterfowl. Literally tens of thousands of ducks, geese, and swans make Mattamuskeet their winter home. And early December is prime time to visit and enjoy the spectacle. In addition to waterfowl, the National Wildlife Refuge provides excellent overall birding and nature observation opportunities. From sparrows to lingering warblers, wintering hummingbirds to waders, this trip promises a rich and varied list of species. We plan to visit various areas on the refuge and travel to nearby hotspots.

Sound like fun? Act quickly as space on this Bonus Trip is limited to 12 participants. This smaller group makes individualized interaction with the trip leaders easier and allows us to help you with identifying any of those "confusing little brown jobs".

### Logistics:

This trip visits Lake Mattamuskeet NWR and surrounding areas on December 1st and 2nd. We will depart from the visitor center at the refuge at 7:00am both Saturday and Sunday, with a full day of birding on Saturday and a half day on Sunday. Registration cost is \$25. You must be a member of the Carolina Bird Club to attend, however, you may join at the same time as you register if you not a member. Participants are responsible for lodging, meals, and transportation. All levels of birding experience are welcome.

Environmental hazards are few, and annoying insects are not usually problematic, but bring weather appropriate clothing and note that food service may be somewhat limited in Hyde County. Registered participants will receive a detailed FAQ with suggestions on lodging and food.



*Lake Mattamuskeet. [www.take-a-trip.info](http://www.take-a-trip.info).*



*Lake Mattamuskeet. [Tripadvisor.com](http://Tripadvisor.com).*

### To Register:

Contact Steve Shultz at [sshultz@nc.rr.com](mailto:sshultz@nc.rr.com) for a reserved slot and a registration form. If your plans should change after registration, refunds are available through November 15. After November 15, refunds are available if we can fill your slot.

## Birding the Barrier Islands

*A new nature program presented by the Hatteras Island Ocean Center*

This past April, the Hatteras Island Ocean Center, Inc. was awarded Carolina Bird Club's Research & Education Grant so that we could introduce a long-awaited birding program to the Ocean Center. This program is called "Birding the Barrier Islands."

The Outer Banks of North Carolina provide a desirable migratory stopover site for countless species of migratory birds. Uncommon species of waterfowl and warblers can often be seen in the fall and spring months. Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge in particular, manages impoundments which are controlled to promote growth of submerged aquatic vegetation. This vegetation provides the food the thousands of ducks in the winter need to survive during migration. Furthermore, the salt ponds at Cape Hatteras National Seashore provide countless species of bird with foraging habitat. These hotspots are part of what makes Hatteras Island an invaluable habitat and platform to educate the public on the importance of bird ecology and environmental conservation.

The goal of this new program is to share basic identification skills with novice birders and to encourage participants to take their birding skills to the next level by observing various bird adaptations. This new program, "Birding the Barrier Islands", begins with a discussion of the diversity of species found on the Outer Banks.

Our central introductory question to begin this program focuses on addressing how so many different species of birds survive in the same location without outcompeting one another. The bird foot molds are used as visual aids for our participants. Most of the birding trips take place at the Hatteras Village Park in Hatteras, NC. However, we have also scheduled programs at Ramp 44 parking lot on Cape Hatteras National Seashore property. Highlights from these trips have included Roseate Spoonbills, Piping Plovers, Least Terns, Black Skimmers, Little Blue Herons, and Spotted Sandpipers.

The spotting scopes have greatly improved and enhanced the experience of program participants, providing close-up views that allow us to hone in on characteristics that assist in correct identification.



*Birders participating in "Birding the Barrier Islands." Research grant awarded by the Carolina Bird Club's Research & Education Grant to the Hatteras Island Ocean Center, Inc.*



*Birds tracked by Hatteras Island Ocean Center, Inc during the "Birding the Barrier Islands" Research Project.*

Since we opened for the 2018 season in May, we have booked seventeen participants for this new birding program and have even been positively reviewed on Trip Advisor. "We went on a morning bird walk, part on the marsh and part on the beach, and identified a large variety of birds. The two staff who led it were very knowledgeable and enthusiastic. We highly recommend it!" We are excited for this opportunity to share our knowledge and hope to continue this program throughout the winter and into next year.

Thank you, Carolina Bird Club, so much for your generosity. You have helped educate a new generation of birders!

## **CAROLINA BIRD CLUB RESEARCH GRANTS**

The CBC provides grants to support research, education and conservation of birds of the Carolinas and their habitats. Grant applications are accepted on an ongoing basis. The CBC Grants Committee meets quarterly to review applications.

### **Research and Education Grants:**

Applications should be made through an educational or non-profit institution. For student research projects, applications require the sponsorship of a faculty member. For secondary school programs, applications require a letter of support from the school principal. Applications should be prepared directly by the applicant and should include:

- A scope of work (preferably limited to two single-spaced pages), including species to be studied and the site where the work will be conducted.
- A detailed budget.
- Appropriate course work and other activities that would indicate that the applicant is capable of performing the described research.
- A letter of support from the faculty sponsor or school principal.
- Details of the starting date of the research and the time period for which funding is requested.
- The name of the payee and the address to which a check should be mailed.

**Checks are made out to an institution or a department, not to an individual.**

Allowable costs include, but are not necessarily limited to, laboratory supplies and limited travel to research sites. The Carolina Bird Club does not support institutional indirect costs.

Awardees must file a final report including an accounting of expenditures and a summary of research or programming no later than 30 days following the close of the grant period. **Any unused funds must be returned to CBC.**

Significant research findings will be reviewed for possible publication in *The Chat*, the ornithological journal of the CBC. Also, awardees may be invited to present their findings at a seasonal meeting of the CBC. In that case the CBC will cover all reasonable expenses incurred by the presenter.

### **Conservation Grants:**

An official representative of the conservation organization should send an application which includes:

- Details of the purpose of the grant request.
- Project plans (with dates) as appropriate.
- The name of the payee and the address to which a check should be mailed.

**Checks are made out to institution or a department, not to an individual.**

Awardees must file a final report including an accounting of expenditures and a summary of the completed project no later than 30 days following its completion. **Any unused funds must be returned to CBC.**

**Important: Grants are awarded for specific purposes. Should the recipient of a grant wish to allocate any part of the grant to a purpose other than that defined in the original application, prior permission must be obtained from the CBC Grants Committee. In the event that such permission is denied the grant monies concerned must be returned to the CBC.**

**Email completed applications or inquiries to: Grants Committee at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).**

# Exploring Camp TALON

By Carolina Bird Club Scholarship Recipient Laura Sprinkle



*Laura Sprinkle.*

After six days exploring the habitats of coastal Georgia, I departed Camp TALON with more than just some great bird photographs and new kindred spirits who also find birds fascinating. I left camp with substantially more information on bird identification than I ever thought I would know, a realization of the vast differences in the various bird species in one area, an appreciation for how challenging this field of work can be and the amazing opportunities the jobs in this career give.

We were taught by extremely knowledgeable leaders all week and it was obvious that they were passionate about birds and about educating others about these creatures. At Camp TALON I learned a great amount of bird identification tips and information. Whether we were identifying them by their color, song or habitat, I became educated on how to tell even birds that seemed impossible to differentiate at one point, apart.

I was blown away by our main leader Mr. Bob's expert identification involving bird songs. He knew every single one we heard, and would call out the names of the singing birds as we heard them, so that eventually those who didn't know the song, caught on. Using mnemonics, he also gave us an easier way to remember the calls of various species. By the end of the week, even the most inexperienced birders knew the call of the prothonotary warbler as it sang "sweet, sweet, sweet," and the carolina wren, "teakettle, teakettle." On the bus rides back from our day's adventures, Mr. Bob would often play the bird songs as we tried our best to match them correctly.

On our daily trips to different parts of coastal Georgia, we saw a vast variety of different birds. There were so many amazing birds, so distinctly different but all living in the same

ecosystem. We viewed American avocets and painted buntings thriving within a couple hundred feet from each other as well as green herons fishing by a pond and red-tailed hawks soaring above them. There are unique characteristics in all these winged-creatures, but all of them live beautifully in harmony.

Not only did we see so much of nature, but we were exposed to career opportunities that would land us right in the center of it. Every day we were introduced to jobs, whether it was meeting a leader of that day's birding expedition or listening to a talk from a biologist who explained her field work from that day (and enticed us with pictures of adorable baby plover chicks as if we weren't already sold). We met many naturalists who have devoted their lives to studying birds and nature and had a chance to hear their story.

Camp TALON was taught by extremely knowledgeable leaders who are passionate about their jobs. I was able to capture some great photographs, meet many young birders with similar interests vastly improve my knowledge.



## Opportunities for Young Birders

**Carolina Bird Club offers scholarships for birders 19 and under living in the Carolinas, who are members of the Carolina Young Birders Club. Scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.**

For more information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)

# Welcome New CBC Members!

John Bloomfield  
Hilton Head Island, SC

Jeyda, Keren & Efe Bolukbasi  
Isle of Palms, SC

Sterling Eason & Owen Collins  
Mt Pleasant, SC

Linda DiSantis  
Bob Kerr  
Atlanta, GA

Maureen Emery  
Florence, SC

Linwood Fordham  
Jacksonville, NC

Carmen Francis  
Salemberg, NC

Kay Grinnell  
Phillip Nelson  
Hilton Head Island, SC

Glyn & Deborah Lewis  
Piedmont, SC

Yves Limpalair  
Greer, SC

Marc Regnier & Jane Norrgard  
Charleston, SC

Amy Padgett  
Clarkton, NC

Andrea Schechter  
Greenville, SC

Chris Sermons  
Ware Shoals, SC

Nathan Tarr  
Durham, NC

Theresa Kopec & Gerald Thurmond  
Spartanburg, SC

Carmen Morales-Velez  
Jose Velez  
Jessica Velez

David & Linda Wilson  
Sunset Beach, NC

Martin Zonnenberg  
Charlotte, NC



**Birds of the Central Carolinas.** The definitive book about the birds of the central Carolinas is available through [Mecklenburg Audubon](#). The book is a first of its kind, an authoritative, comprehensive summary of the status, distribution, and historical context of all the birds regularly occurring in the Piedmont of both Carolinas. It includes original historical research never before compiled and published in online sources; full accounts of 312 species with additional partial accounts of another 60 species; over 400 color photographs taken in the central Carolinas; and the complete results of the Mecklenburg County Breeding Bird Atlas.

**Wings Over Water.** Registration for the 22nd Annual Wings Over Water wildlife festival is now open. The event is scheduled for October 16-21 with the winter Encore weekend following the weekend of December 7-9. This year expert guide George Armistead will be the keynote speaker. You may have crossed paths with George in North Carolina on a pelagic trip (he has been a spotter on many of Brian Patteson's trips) or on a Christmas Bird Count along the Outer Banks. He first frequented our coast a good bit with his father, Harry, as a very young birder.

If you have not attended WOW, please consider joining us. Even if you have been before, keep in mind that we work hard in order to offer some different programs each year. And even if you frequent the Outer Banks on your own, you may find an activity that gives you a new perspective. There will be canoeing and kayaking trips, natural history walks, owl prowls, photo and art workshops as well as lots and lots of birding opportunities. Trips are filling up fast! Go to [www.wingsoverwater.org](http://www.wingsoverwater.org) for details and registration information.



Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

**Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**  
**1809 Lakepark Drive**  
**Raleigh, NC 27612**

Periodicals Postage Paid  
at Pinehurst, NC 28374  
and additional mailing offices

## Upcoming CBC Meetings

**Winter 2019—Outer Banks, NC**

**Spring 2019—Southern Pines, NC**

### CBC Board Members

**President**, Christine Stoughton-Root,  
Merritt, NC  
[cssrbdr@gmail.com](mailto:cssrbdr@gmail.com)

#### **Vice Presidents**

Craig Watson, Mt. Pleasant, SC  
Sherry Lane, Wilmington, NC  
Steve Tracy, Gastonia, NC

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Jill Midgett, Charleston, SC

#### **Treasurer**

Paul Dayer, Durham, NC

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Karyl Gabriel, High Point, NC  
Katherine Higgins, Wilmington, NC  
Marilyn Westphal, Hendersonville,  
NC

#### **SC Members-at-Large**

Steve McInnis, Columbia, SC  
Mac Williams, Hartsville, SC

**Immediate Past President** : Irvin Pitts

**Editor of The Chat**— Steve Shultz

**Website Editor**: Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC

**Headquarters Secretary**: Carol Bowman, Pinehurst, NC,  
[hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org)

**CBC Newsletter Editor**: Vivian Glover, Orangeburg, SC,  
[newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org)

**Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of  
December, February, April, June, August, and October.**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)—UPDATE**

The *CBC Newsletter* is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937 the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. **Current dues are:** Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments).

**Membership dues** include access to publications: the *CBC Newsletter* and *The Chat*, which is only available on line. Tax deductible as allowable by law.

**Cost for CBC bird checklists**, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

**Join the CBC** at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/dues/>. Enter change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile/>. Order checklists from: CBC Headquarters Secretary, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Copyright © 2018.

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Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

# CBC Newsletter

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For members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc.,  
Ornithological Society of the Carolinas

Volume 64

December 2018

Number 6

**CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019**

**Outstanding Birds Xpected**

**Organized by Christine Stoughton Root and Les Coble**

The CBC host hotel Ramada Plaza Nags Head and the Outer Banks extend a warm welcome to members and guests joining us for our Winter Seasonal Meeting.

Yes, we are returning to the wonders of the Outer Banks January 2019. The heading is self-explaining. "Outstanding Birds eXpected" this was titled by Ron Clark back in 2014. The OBX does produce unexpected sightings year-round. Its proximity to the Gulf Stream, its effect on weather along the coast in every month, and the amazing variety of habitats within a few miles of the coast provide the setting for the large daily bird counts available to all. These counts easily can top 100 on an all-day for-ay most days of the year! 180 species were recorded at the last OBX Weekend in 2017.

The list of birds in 2017 and earlier included Golden Eagle at Alligator NWR and Iceland, Glaucous, "Thayer's" and California Gulls at Cape Hatteras area, along with a resident Anna's Hummingbird. Jennette's Pier provided Razorbills, Dovekies, all three North American Scoter, Long-tailed Duck. Pea Island, Mattamuskeet and Pocosin showed us, Ross's Goose, hundreds of Snow Geese and Swans, Eurasian Wigeons, and Horned Grebe. Interesting passerine observations have included species such as Ash-throated Flycatcher, Lark Sparrow, Snow Bunting, Lapland Longspur and Dickcissel.

**"New" Thursday Evening-6-6:45pm a casual evening program by Bob Schamerhorn on "Atlantic Coastal Birds."**

Bob Schamerhorn, renowned speaker and photographer, will be spending the weekend with the Carolina Bird Club. He will lead a field trip and share his expertise in photography and attracting birds. He will start with a casual refresher. The Friday night program will be "**Easy Access Florida Birding.**" He will continue Saturday with a **Photography Workshop "Birds in Action."**

Bob's Saturday night program is "**Attracting Birds with Water.**" Each different season brings varying species and changed plumages, whether it is winter, breeding season, spring or fall migration. In one central Virginia backyard alone, the addition of this simple birdbath system has attracted over 75 species! These include Hummingbirds, Cedar Waxwing, Redstart, Cerulean and Black-throated Warblers. It provides this essential resource even when everything else is frozen solid.

**Continued P.2**

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## CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019

### Outstanding Birds Xpected/Continued

Extensively experienced, world renowned pelagic birder, Brian Patteson, will lead a day trip for intrepid, life-bird-seekers out on the Atlantic Ocean for a full day afloat. Bring your lunch, drinks and foul weather gear for this adventure. We will leave from a port determined by Brian just before the weekend. Due to early departure a brown-bagged breakfast will be provided

In addition a variety of field trips will include waterfowl, shorebirds, photography workshops and a trip for those who wish to bird at a slower pace that is also handicapped accessible.

Two Sunday morning field trips one may allow relocating unusual species reported.

Registration packets will contain directions to the locations of the field trips offered. Some local reference books recommended. The North Carolina Birding Trail—Coastal Plain Trail Guide can be used to study up on the Outer Banks sites you will be visiting, as well as planning your trip to and from Kill Devil Hills. John Fussell's A Birder's Guide to Coastal North Carolina and Mike Tove's Guide to the Offshore Wildlife of the Northern Atlantic are standards for birding this area of North Carolina.

Our host hotel and meeting headquarters is the [Ramada Plaza Nags Head](#) 1701 South Virginia Dare Trail in Kill Devil Hills. This Ramada boasts lots of amenities including private balconies, in-room refrigerator and microwave, as well as a heated pool and Jacuzzi. The CBC rates for this meeting are truly excellent at \$75 per night for an ocean view room or \$65 per night for the street side. This cost does not include tax of 12.75%. This price **does** include a hot breakfast buffet-style starting at 5:30 am. A brown-bagged breakfast will be provided for those leaving earlier. Identify yourself as being with the **Carolina Bird Club** when you call **the hotel directly at (252) 441-2151 to make your reservation**. The hotel will provide our Saturday night buffet dinner. Go to [www.RamadaPlazaNagsHead.com](http://www.RamadaPlazaNagsHead.com) for more information. Please register by **December 28, 2018**.

Check-in time is 4 PM and checkout is 11 AM.

Both **Friday** and **Saturday** evenings will host cash bar and social hours. Friday at 5:30 pm with programs beginning at 7:00 pm, Saturday at 5:30 pm with the Banquet Dinner starting at 6:30 pm, program following at 7:15 pm.

There are many diversions in the area for non-birding spouses. Aside from the beautiful beach as far as you can see, the Wright Brothers National Memorial in nearby Kill Devil Hills and historic Manteo, with the Elizabethan Gardens, are just a short drive away. Three lighthouses, Currituck Beach, Bodie and Cape Hatteras, are less than an hour away. Manteo also has a reproduction of the lesser-known Roanoke Marshes Lighthouse.

Winter on the Outer Banks is always special. Bring warm clothes, a sense of humor and adventure. We hope to see you there.

**Registration opens on December 1st at 2:00pm.**

**Please note: South Pond on Pea Island is off-limits at all times. We will have access for this meeting, and only if you are on the specified trips. No one is allowed in that area at other times. Also, certain impoundments around Lake Mattamuskeet are off-limits and have signs posting such. We will have access to some of these areas, but only on designated trip.**

# CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC - Field Trips Schedules

## Friday, January 18, 2019

### Morning Half Day

- Trip 1** - Palmetto Peartree Preserve and Alligator River NWR - 6:45am
- Trip 2** - Pea Island NWR/North and South Ponds - 7:15am
- Trip 3** - Oregon Inlet & Bodie Island - 7:15am
- Trip 4** - Roanoke Island - 7:30am
- Trip 5** - Ocean Watching - Jennettes Pier 7:30am
- Trip 6** - Bird Watching 101 Workshop/Field - 8:00am
- Trip 7** - Waterfowl Workshop/Field - 8:00am

### Afternoon Half Day

- Trip 9** - Palmetto Peartree Preserve and Alligator River NWR - 1:00pm
- Trip 10** - Pea Island NWR/North and South Ponds - 1:00pm
- Trip 11** - Oregon Inlet & Bodie Island - 1:00pm
- Trip 12** - Alligator River NWR - 1:00pm
- Trip 13** - Ocean Watch - Jennettes Pier - 1:15pm
- Trip 14** - Owl Prowl-after evening program - 9:00pm

### All Day

- Trip 16** - Mattamuskeet - 6:45am
- Trip 17** - Cape Hatteras & Pea Island - 6:45am
- Trip 18** - Pelagic - 5:30am
- Trip 19** - Pocosin Lakes NWR - 5:15am

## Saturday, January 19, 2019

### Morning Half Day

- Trip 22** - Palmetto Peartree Preserve and Alligator River NWR - 6:45am
- Trip 23** - Pea Island NWR/North and South Ponds - 7:15am
- Trip 24** - Oregon Inlet and Bodie Island - 7:15am
- Trip 25** - Bodie Island-Casual & Handicapped accessible Birding - 8:30am
- Trip 26** - Roanoke Island - 7:30am
- Trip 27** - Ocean Watching -Jennettes Pier - 7:30am

### Afternoon Half Day

- Trip 29** - Palmetto Peartree Preserve and Alligator River NWR - 1:00pm
- Trip 30** - Pea Island NWR/North and South Ponds - 1:00pm
- Trip 31** - Oregon Inlet and Bodie Island - 1:00pm
- Trip 32** - Shorebird Workshop/Field - 1:00pm
- Trip 33** - Ocean Watch - Jennetts Pier - 1:15pm
- Trip 34** - Winter Hummingbird Workshop - 1:15pm
- Trip 35** - Photography Workshop/Field - 1:00pm

### All Day

- Trip 18** - Rain Date for Pelagic trip - 5:30am
- Trip 36** - Mattamuskeet - 6:45am
- Trip 37** - Cape Hatteras & Pea Island - 6:45am

## Sunday January 20, 2019

### Morning Half Day

- Trip 38** - Alligator River NWR-7:30am
- Trip 39** - Search for Rarities Seen-7:30am

## Meeting Planning Notes

- The times listed in the schedule are when the cars are lined up in the parking lot and leaving. Please be there at least 10 minutes early and identify yourself to the leader. Field trip leaders cell phone number will be provided at this time.
- if you decide not to go on a trip, either scratch through your name beforehand on the supplied lists, or show up at the meeting place and tell someone.
- All trips depart from hotel in the parking lot. Look for the placard with your trip number.
- There will be a sheet with all directions for your trips emailed to you in advance. Please bring it on each trip as caravans sometimes break down, and, if so, you'll still be able to get to the trip site
- Food for purchase during field trips may be somewhat limited. Accordingly, plan to take snacks and beverages with you, and be sure to pack a lunch for the all day trips.
- We try to take as few vehicles as possible on field trips in order to save fuel, make caravanning easier, and to make better use of the limited parking that exists at some stops. Please plan on carpooling, and if you would like to drive and have room for new or old friends, please let your trip leader know when you arrive for your outing.

# CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019

## Outstanding Birds Xpected—Field Trips Descriptions

### Half Day Trips

#### **Trips - 1, 9, 22 & 29 - Palmetto Peartree Preserve and Alligator River NWR:**

("P3" as the locals know it.) We will look among the seven species of woodpeckers present for the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. During our search, we should see a good assortment of woodland and edge species. After birding P3, the group will drive through Alligator River NWR. Many species will be possible, including waterfowl and shorebirds. Another possibility are Short-eared Owls over the fields just before dusk. You would need to stay later than the afternoon trips are scheduled.

**Approximate Travel Time:** 1:10 **Facilities -** Porta-john

#### **Trips - 2, 10, 23 & 30 - Pea Island NWR, North and South Ponds:**

If you drive down to the entrance area of South Pond, park carefully along the roadside. If you are there in advance of the guide, wait by the road. We will scan flocks of common birds hoping for such species as Eurasian Wigeon, American Avocet, Marbled Godwit, American Bittern and American White Pelican. In the grassy strips and in the shrub edges along the way, we should find sparrows and warblers.

**Remember: South Pond is off-limits except with the approved guide.**

**Approximate Travel Time:** 30min **Facilities:** Yes

#### **Trips - 3, 11, 24 & 31- Oregon Inlet and Bodie Island:**

At the north end of Pea Island are the Oregon Inlet and the Bonner Bridge, whose replacement should be open in time for our meeting. This is "hallowed ground" to birders and many rarities have shown up here over the years. On the north side of the bridge is the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center, where we will scope the inlet for Long-tailed Duck and other diving ducks. We'll continue on to Bodie Lighthouse Pond where we will scope for waterfowl, shorebirds and waders from the observation platform. The boardwalk that cuts through the marsh is good for rails and marsh wrens.

**Approximate Travel Time:** 25min **Facilities:** Yes

#### **Trips - 4, 26 - Roanoke Island:**

We'll begin at the north end of the island where we will search the woodland edges for winter land species. After that, we will visit the Roanoke Marshes Game Lands in search of saltmarsh species such as Marsh Wren, Seaside Sparrow, Clapper and Virginia Rails. The freshwater impoundment should hold a few shorebirds and waterfowl for us to view. Then we will stop by the harbor in Wanchese Village at the south end of the island and scan the surrounding sound and marina. Wear comfortable shoes because you are going to cover a lot of ground on this field trip.

**Approximate Travel Time:** 25min. **Facilities:** Yes

#### **Trips - 5, 13, 27 & 33 - Ocean Watch, Jennette's Pier:**

A scope is essential for this trip to scan the Atlantic for the winter birds that feast on the bounty of the ocean. If you don't have a scope, there should be plenty in the group. Your leader will select some premium locations from which to watch the action, including Jennettes Pier for Loons, grebes, scoters, Razorbills, Dovekie, Gannets and other sea ducks and gulls.

**Approximate Travel Time:** 15min **Facilities:** Yes

**Note:** There is a fee to walk on the pier.

## **CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019**

### **Half Day—Field Trips Descriptions**

#### **Trip - 6 Birding Watching 101-Workshop/Field:**

This trip is designed for those new to birding, but anyone can come along! Birding techniques will be discussed including how to view a bird, what type of diagnostic marks to look for, how to “pish”, the importance of habitat, how to act, and even what to wear. The leader will explain what to look for in binoculars, scopes, and field guides. The leader, who will also answer any participant’s questions, will decide the destination.

**Workshop:** Ramada **Approximate Travel:** TBD

#### **Trip - 7-Waterfowl Workshop/Field:**

Winter waterfowl can be found in many habitats: From the open ocean along our coast to wetlands, lakes and rivers throughout the state. Determining which species you are looking at can be tricky, especially from a distance. This workshop will help those looking to improve their waterfowl identification skills by exploring field marks, behaviors and other tips. After an indoor presentation, including a PowerPoint and taxidermy birds and wings, we'll hit some of the waterfowl hotspots nearby. Spotting scopes are recommended, and we hope to have at least a few to share among the group.

**Workshop:** Ramada **Field:** TBD

#### **Trip -12 & 38—Alligator River NWR:**

A drive through Alligator River NWR searching for raptors and sparrows. Stopping at impoundments checking for waterfowl and shorebirds. This refuge may be the best place in the state to find Ash-throated Flycatcher. Rough-legged Hawks and a Swainson’s Hawk have wintered here in the recent past. Black Bears, Bobcats and Red Wolves are all possible.

**Approximate Travel Time:** 45 min

**Facilities:** Porta-johns at entrance to Milltail Road in Alligator River NWR

**Access:** Gravel unimproved roadway, mostly driving with frequent stops.

#### **Trip - 14 - Owls - (After Friday evening program.)**

We will venture across S. Croatan Hwy to an entrance of Old Nags Head Preserve. The owls that may be present are the Great Horned and Eastern Screech Owl.

**Approximate travel time:** 10 min

#### **Field Trip - 25 Bodie Island Casual & Handicapped accessible Birding:**

This barrier island location can offer ideal foraging habitats for many resident shorebird species. Bodie Island Lighthouse is the most northern site on Cape Hatteras National Seashore. It offers a handicapped boardwalk and observation platform, which overlooks a freshwater marshland. We will also bird the surrounding areas of the parking lot.

**Approximate travel time:** 25 min.

#### **Trip 32-Shorebird ID Workshop/Field ID:**

The shorebird workshop will focus on key characteristics such as overall profiles, foraging behaviors and habitat, which can aid birders on all levels to quickly and confidently identify a species. We will review all shorebird families, but our primary focus will be Charadriidae (plovers) and Scolopacidae (sandpipers). If you’re interested in refining your “peep” identification skills, then please join in this discussion-based workshop and outside field trip.

**Workshop:** Ramada **Approximate travel:** 30-35 min.

## CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019

### Half Day—Field Trips Descriptions

#### **Trip - 34 -Winter Hummingbird Workshop:**

Susan Campbell, a hummingbird expert, provides this 2-hour workshop. Come learn about winter hummingbirds in coastal NC. Find out what species to expect, how to identify them and why they are here. Discussion on winter-feeding tips will also be included.

**Workshop-Ramada**

#### **Trip - 35 -Photography Workshop “Birds in Action”:**

Workshop

A) **Indoor Session** – open to all (enjoyable to non-photographers too)

B) **Outdoor Photo-shoot** – Limited to the first 8 to sign up.

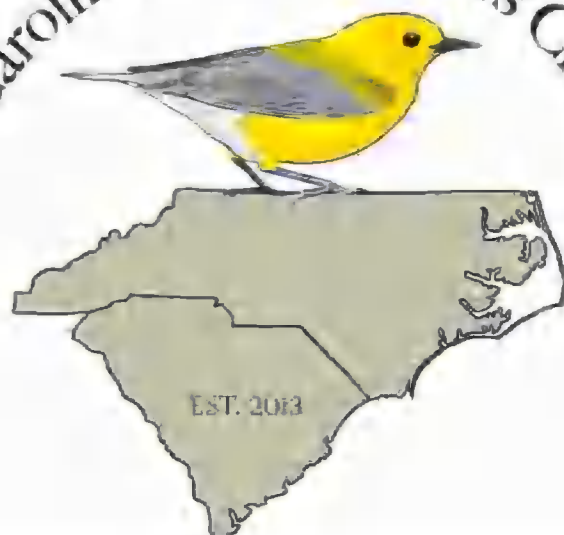
This workshop begins with a 45-min. (plus Q&A) indoor presentation by award winning nature photographer Bob Schamerhorn, which demonstrates and discusses an array of bird activities including: flight, takeoff, landing, feeding, bathing, drinking, preening, diving, nesting, and more. Also shows the reasons why birds are so active, their motivation and characteristics of activity including: migration, food gathering, and avoidance of danger. Includes both basic photography techniques and more advanced skills. Learn how to improve your action photography abilities, both technically and physically, by optimizing your location, learning good motor-skill practices, using auto-focus, image research, and proper shutter speed settings. The subject of “birds in action” is one of the most challenging, but also most rewarding, of nature photography endeavors. Followed by a two-hour outdoor photo-shoot opportunity to put these learnings into practice, location TBD.

**Workshop-Ramada** **Approximate travel** -To be determined

#### **Trip 39-Search for Rarities Seen.**

Attempt to relocate rarities that had been seen over the weekend.

Carolina Young Birders Club



#### **Opportunities for Young Birders**

**Carolina Bird Club offers scholarships for birders 19 and under living in the Carolinas, who are members of the Carolina Young Birders Club.**

**Scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.**

**For more information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)**

## CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019

### Full Day—Field Trips Descriptions

#### **Trip - 16 & 36 - Mattamuskeet NWR:**

A birder's paradise, Mattamuskeet can be incredible. One of the best spots in the state for Golden Eagle, we will bird the Lake Landing area for waterfowl, shorebirds and waders, sorting through the more common species and hoping for something rare. There is a good chance we will be allowed access to some of the off-limit areas. We will also bird along the causeway, famous for its overwintering passerines. Side trips on the way back to the coast may include Stumpy Point Bay and Alligator River NWR.

**Approximate Travel Time:** 1:30

#### **Trips - 17 & 37 Cape Hatteras and Pea Island:**

The guide will rendezvous with the CBC party at the lighthouse parking lot. We will cover the Point Campground, the Salt Pond and the beach, sorting through the gull flocks in search of "Thayer's", Iceland, Glaucous and California Gulls. Lesser Black-backed Gulls should be common. We will scan the ocean for alcids or other rarities. The salt pond usually hosts good populations of birds. Snow Buntings, Horned Larks and a Sprague's Pipit may be present. Your leader will plan some side trips on the way back depending on what has been seen that morning at points north.

**Please note:** We will be walking the sandy beach to Hatteras Point, about two miles round trip.

**Approximate Travel time:** 1:10

#### **Trip -18 Pelagic Birding Adventure:**

Brian Patteson will offer an all-day pelagic trip on Friday, January 18, with Saturday being a weather date. Cost is \$169.00 per person with a limit of 20 people. Sign up early for this trip, as Brian will offer it to the general public after January 1, 2019. The departure point will be Hatteras or Wanchese depending on weather conditions. The departure location will be announced and communicated to those who have registered. On Brian's winter trip you may see Northern Fulmar, Manx Shearwater, Red Phalarope, Great Skua, Black-legged Kittiwake, Atlantic Puffin, Razorbill and Dovekie among others. This time of year the Northern Gannets put on quite a show when on a school of fish, and they are also frequently close at hand for the chum provided, making for excellent photo opportunities.

Please send by check \$169.00 per person directly to Brian Patteson, P.O. Box 772, Hatteras, NC 27943.

For more information about Brian's trips, expected birds, and preparations visit [www.patteson.com](http://www.patteson.com).

Brian can be reached at (252) 986-1363 or by e-mail at [hatteraspetrel@gmail.com](mailto:hatteraspetrel@gmail.com). Remember to indicate on your CBC registration form that you will take the pelagic trip, even though Brian is handling the reservations. A brown-bagged breakfast will be provided.

**Approximate Travel Time:** To be determined depending on departing port.

#### **Trip -19 Pocosin Lakes NWR. Led by a Local Ranger:**

Pocosin Lakes is famous for huge flocks of wintering Snow Geese lifting off at sunrise, a spectacle in itself. We will look through Red-winged Blackbirds with hopes of spotting a Yellow-headed Blackbird. Overhead, we'll keep an eye out for Golden Eagles—this is one of the most reliable spots in the state for these awesome birds. Other possibilities include other waterfowl and farm field and edge species, such as sparrows, pipits and Horned Larks. There is a lot of territory to cover on this trip with potential side trips on the way back.

**Approximate Travel Time:** 1:45

For further details check the trip listings at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)

## CBC Winter Seasonal Meeting—Nags Head, NC, January 18-20, 2019

### Outstanding Birds Xpected—Trip #18 - Pelagic Birding Adventure:



Brian Patteson will offer an all-day pelagic trip on Friday, January 18, with Saturday as the weather date.

On Brian's winter trip you may see Northern Fulmar, Manx Shearwater, Red Phalarope, Great Skua, Black-legged Kittiwake, Atlantic Puffin, Razorbill and Dovekie among others.

This time of year the Northern Gannets put on quite a show when on a school of fish, and they are also frequently close at hand for the chum provided, making for excellent photo opportunities.

## Ecuador's Fabulous Hummingbird's March 1-10, 2019

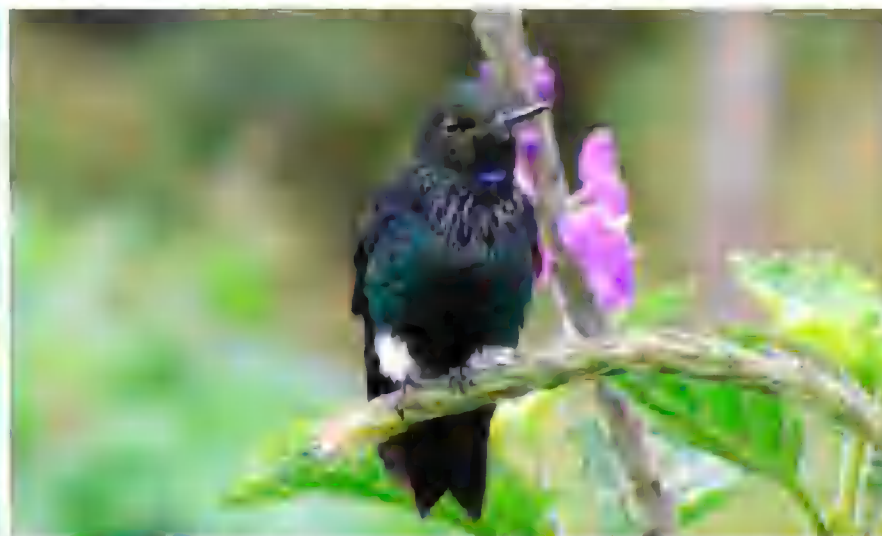
Organized by Simon Thompson & Susan Campbell

Some of the hummers we hope to see: Black-breasted Puffleg, Rainbow-bearded Thornbill, both Green-tailed and Black-tailed Trainbearers, Sapphire-vented Puffleg, Giant Hummingbird, Ecuadorian Hillstar, Booted Racket-tail (both races), Brown Violetear, Empress Brilliant, Velvet-Purple Coronet, Green and White-whiskered Hermit, Many-spotted & Violet-headed Hummingbirds, Ecuadorian Piedtail, Golden-tailed Sapphire, Napo Sabrewing, Grey-chinned Hermit, Fork-tailed Woodnymph, Green and Wire-crested Thorntails, Purple-crowned Fairy, White-tipped Sicklebill and Long-billed Starthroat.

Registration Details at [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org) or [www.birdventures.com](http://www.birdventures.com)  
For additional information: The contact is Susan Campbell at [susan@ncaves.com](mailto:susan@ncaves.com).



*Golden-tailed Sapphire.  
Image from Pinterest..*



*Black-breasted Puffleg. Image by BenjiSchwartz.*



*Violet-headed Hummingbird.  
Image by pantpitta.com.*

### Bonus Field Trips

Lets talk about Bonus Field Trips. CBC's intentions are to present the Bonus Field Trips in the newsletter. However, this has proven virtually impossible for most trips. So it is important for those who wish to go on Bonus Field Trips to check the CBC homepage often for notices of upcoming trips. There will be a registration date for every trip; if you miss the sign up date or the list is full, it is important to get onto the wait list. Surprisingly, people do cancel and you may be given the option to attend the trip. Furthermore, if this trip is offered again in the future, you would be given the opportunity to sign up for the trip before it is opened to new signups.

Thank you,

Christine Stoughton Root, President, Carolina Bird Club



# Carolina Bird Club Attends Birding Festival

By Jill Midgett



*Craig Watson and Jill Midgett at the CBC table.*

On Saturday October 6th, the Carolina Bird Club took its inaugural flight into the world of birding festivals. There are many longstanding events across the country but not many in the Southeastern US. Old Santee Canal Park in Moncks Corner about 30 minutes northeast of Charleston, SC hosted its first "Bird Fest".

This was a one-day event, and they are already planning for next year. They did a great job of recruiting other organizations and businesses, which celebrate

birding and protect birds. S.C. Audubon (who graciously provided shade breaks under their pop-up cover), DNR, Ducks Unlimited, The Center for Birds of Prey and businesses selling everything from feeders to decoys shared a lovely lawn.

The Audubon folks led a bird walk at 10am for about 25 people. Next year there will be earlier and more walks. A band played old time music in the background, and a food truck sold lunches. About 400 visitors came and many engaged Craig Watson and myself about what CBC is and does and who we are.

We both had great conversations about birding locations near Charleston and our 2019 Seasonal Fall meeting. We also met some fun kids who could become future CBC Young Birders.

All in all it was time well-spent and next year we may help lead more walks. Lessons learned 1.) Laptops get REALLY hot in the hot sun and since we had no shade the screens were not viewable. 2.) Make sure we are placed next to S.C Audubon again. Great camaraderie, mutual members and support.

## 2019 CBC Spring Executive Committee Election

### It is your Carolina Bird Club!

**We would like all of you to consider serving a term on the CBC Executive Committee. It is only four meetings a year and it's actually fun. We work on the strategic operation of the CBC and contribute to the long term viability of the organization. Each executive committee member shares the load. We have the following openings upcoming in May 2019.**

**President**—Must be a current or past board member. A one-year term, eligible for one additional one-year term.

**WNC Vice President**—WNC Vice President is for one three-year term

**SC Member at Large**—SC Member at Large is for a two-year term and eligible for a second two-year term.

**If interested please send an email to [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org) so we can discuss further what is involved!**

# Welcome New CBC Members!

## Donation

In Memory of Kenneth M. Apgar

## New Life Member

Patricia Geiger  
Myrtle Beach, SC

Joyce Aponte  
Fuquay Varina, NC

Linda Bridgers  
Fuquay Varina, NC

Lynn & Candice Burns  
Simpsonville, SC

Timothy Campbell  
Shelby, NC

Tracee Clapper  
Charleston, SC

Deborah Craig  
Myrtle Beach, SC

Pam Diamond  
Cary, NC

Patricia & Michael Feltman  
Raleigh, NC

Bill Fisher  
Waynesville, NC

Alexis Hayser  
Leslie Moore  
Barbara Hayser  
Leo Hayser  
Wilmington, NC

Valerie & Wayne Hollinger  
Greenville, SC 29601

Finn, Patrick, Jennifer  
& Lila Hayes  
Charleston, SC

Sarah Jessee  
Fripp Island, SC

David Johnston  
Athens, WV

John Lashley  
Fort Mill, SC

Dawn Lloyd  
Sean Leahy  
Dorian James  
Burlington, NC

Art & Lisa Martin  
Wild Birds Unlimited  
Florence, SC

William Oakley  
Norman, OK

Patricia Roshaven  
Columbus, NC

Jerry Scurry  
Mount Pleasant, SC

Scott & Linda Shalaway  
Hendersonville, NC

Susan Smith  
Easley, SC

James Story  
Inman, SC

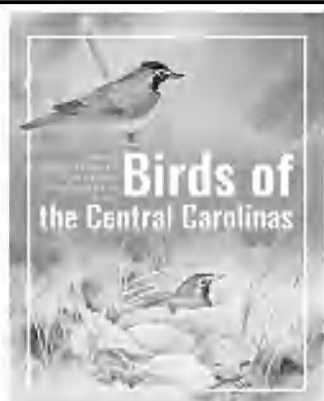
Ginger and Craig Stratton  
Greenville, SC

Saunda & Steven Thomas  
Beaufort, SC

Tina Wilson  
Raleigh, NC

Cynthia Wooten  
Greenville, NC

Susan Worthy  
Hillsborough, NC



**Birds of the Central Carolinas.** The definitive book about the birds of the central Carolinas is available through **Mecklenburg Audubon**. The book is a first of its kind, an authoritative, comprehensive summary of the status, distribution, and historical context of all the birds regularly occurring in the Piedmont of both Carolinas. It includes original historical research never before compiled and published in online sources; full accounts of 312 species with additional partial accounts of another 60 species; over 400 color photographs taken in the central Carolinas; and the complete results of the Mecklenburg County Breeding Bird Atlas.

**Winter Seasonal Meeting Jan-18-20, 2019 OBX, NC Registration Form**

**Registration Begins December 1st @ 2pm. Register online for**

**Best Availability of Field Trips at**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Member) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Non-Member) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Buffet Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian option \_\_\_\_\_ x \$32 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Field Trip Sign-Up	A.M. 1st/2nd Choice	P.M. 1st/2nd Choice	All Day 1st/2nd Choice
Friday	/	/	/
Saturday	/	/	/

Meeting registration at the door costs \$40.

**Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club and send to:**  
**CBC, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374**

Club policy requires all field trip participants to comply with the field trip leader's assessment and requests concerning the physical ability of each participant to make or complete the trip.

I will release and discharge (and will not make a claim against) the Carolina Bird Club for injury, death, or property damage arising from my participation at this meeting and/or Club field trips. This release of liability is entered into on behalf of all members of my family, including all minors accompanying me. I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of any such minors and that I am over 18 years of age.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Processing of mail-in registrations will not begin until online registration opens.

**Pre-Registration ends January 12, 2019**

**Cancellations will be refunded if received by 6pm on January 4th**



Carolina Bird Club  
www.carolinabirdclub.org

**Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**  
**1809 Lakepark Drive**  
**Raleigh, NC 27612**

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and additional mailing offices

## Upcoming CBC Meetings

**Winter 2019—Outer Banks, NC**

**Spring 2019—Southern Pines, NC**

**Fall 2019—Charleston, SC**

### CBC Board Members

**President**, Christine Stoughton-Root,  
Merritt, NC  
[cssrbdr@gmail.com](mailto:cssrbdr@gmail.com)

#### **Vice Presidents**

Craig Watson, Mt. Pleasant, SC  
Sherry Lane, Wilmington, NC  
Steve Tracy, Gastonia, NC

#### **Secretary**

Jill Midgett, Charleston, SC

#### **Treasurer**

Paul Dayer, Durham, NC

#### **NC Members-at-Large**

Lester Coble, Ernul, NC  
Karyl Gabriel, High Point, NC  
Katherine Higgins, Wilmington, NC  
Marilyn Westphal, Hendersonville, NC

#### **SC Members-at-Large**

Steve McInnis, Columbia, SC  
Mac Williams, Hartsville, SC

**Immediate Past President** : Irvin Pitts

**Editor of The Chat**— Steve Shultz

**Website Editor**: Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC

**Headquarters Secretary**: Carol Bowman, Pinehurst, NC,  
[hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org)

**CBC Newsletter Editor**: Vivian Glover, Orangeburg, SC,  
[newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org)

**Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of  
December, February, April, June, August, and October.**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)—UPDATE**

The **CBC Newsletter** is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937 the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. **Current dues are**: Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments).

**Membership dues** include access to publications: the **CBC Newsletter** and **The Chat**, which is only available on line. Tax deductible as allowable by law.

**Cost for CBC bird checklists**, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

**Join the CBC** at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/dues/>. Enter change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile/>. Order checklists from: CBC Headquarters Secretary, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Copyright © 2018.

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